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**Arab team meets Shultz today**  
WASHINGTON (R) — An Arab League delegation led by North Yemeni Foreign Minister Abdul Karim Al Iryani will hold talks with Secretary of State George Shultz on Thursday, State Department said Wednesday. "We welcome the Arab League delegation and look forward to sharing assessments of regional security and efforts to bring about a negotiated settlement to the Iran-Iraq war," department spokesman Charles Redman told reporters. The Arab delegation would also meet Vice President George Bush, Mr. Redman said. He also said Assistant Secretary of State Richard Murphy, and Bill Washington on a visit to the Gulf region to discuss the same topics. Redman, citing security reasons, declined to give any details of Mr. Murphy's itinerary. The State Department's chief Middle East expert was due to visit Iraq and members of the Gulf Cooperation Council. The Arab League delegation visit results from a meeting of the organization's foreign ministers in Tunis last month which passed a resolution unanimously urging an end to the Gulf war and criticizing Iran for refusing to negotiate an end to it. Redman said the Arab League had dispatched delegations to the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council to urge strong U.N. action to end the war.

# Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation  
جوردان تايمز يومية سياسية مستقلة المنشورة بالمؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية «الراي»

**SPLA claims downing plane**  
KHARTOUM (R) — A light plane crashed in flames in southern Sudan on Wednesday, killing 13 people, and anti-government rebels said they shot it down. The plane, a Cessna 404 flown by two Dutch pilots and carrying 11 passengers including four children, crashed about 60 kilometres north of Malakal after taking off on a flight to Khartoum. A statement by the chairman of Sudan's civil aviation authority said there were no survivors, but gave no indication what caused the crash. The rebel Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA), in a radio broadcast from Addis Ababa, said the plane was shot down by one of its units operating in the Malakal area, 690 kilometres south of Khartoum. The SPLA, which has been fighting a bush war since 1983 against what it regards as domination by northern Sudanese, has frequently warned aircraft against flying over south Sudan. Last August, its guerrillas fired a missile which destroyed a Sudanese airliner shortly after takeoff from Malakal, killing all 60 people on board. The SPLA radio quoted a spokesman as saying the Sudanese army had been using international air routes before suddenly descending to bomb SPLA-held towns or to supply military outposts. See earlier story on page 2.

Volume 12 Number 3468 AMMAN, THURSDAY-FRIDAY MAY 7-8, 1987, RAMADAN 10-11, 1407 Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

**Envoy meets U.N. chief**  
NEW YORK (Petra) — Jordan's permanent envoy to the U.N., Abdullah Salah, met here on Tuesday with U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. The meeting came upon request from Mr. Perez de Cuellar within the framework of current consultations on the proposed international peace conference on the Middle East. Mr. Salah outlined to the U.N. secretary general Jordan's view vis-a-vis the international conference.

## Jordan and Egypt review coordinated efforts towards Mideast peace conference

AMMAN (Petra) — Developments in the Middle East region and coordination between Egypt and Jordan on efforts for a peaceful settlement to the Arab-Israeli conflict were the topics of discussion here Wednesday at a meeting grouping Prime Minister Zaid Rifai, Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid.

During the meeting, which was attended also by Egypt's Ambassador to Jordan Ihab Wabbeh, a general review took place on steps to be taken for further coordinating the two countries' efforts for arriving at a just and durable settlement for the Middle East problem within the framework of the proposed international conference with the participation of all concerned parties and the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

Later, Mr. Rifai and his Egyptian counterpart Atif Sedki co-chaired a second round of meeting of the Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee at the prime minister's office. The meeting, which followed a closed session between the two prime ministers, was dedicated for the discussions of achievements in bilateral cooperation in the fields



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan on Wednesday meets with an Egyptian delegation headed by Prime Minister Atif Sedki. Earlier, Prime Minister Zaid Rifai held talks with Egyptian Foreign Minister Esmat Abdul Meguid in a meeting attended by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and Egyptian Ambassador to Jordan Ihab Wabbeh (Petra photos)



Esmat Abdul Meguid in a meeting attended by Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri and Egyptian Ambassador to Jordan Ihab Wabbeh (Petra photos)

**Tindemans to visit Israel this weekend**

BRUSSELS (R) — Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans will visit Israel at the weekend to promote the European Community's (EC) call for an international peace conference on the Arab-Israeli conflict. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said Mr. Tindemans, whose country at present holds the EC presidency, is also due to visit Tunisia and Algeria before June. The dates still have to be set. The spokesman added that Mr. Tindemans would be ready to meet Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat although no meeting has been arranged.

**Challenger astronaut's widow files suit**

ORLANDO (R) — The widow of Challenger astronaut Michael Smith on Wednesday filed a \$1.5 billion lawsuit against the United States government, rocket builder Morton Thiokol Inc., and a former top manager of the U.S. space agency. The suit, filed in Orlando federal court, accuses Thiokol of "reckless disregard" for the lives of astronauts when it built the booster rockets that were later blamed for the destruction of the space shuttle Challenger on Jan. 28, 1986. The complaint seeks \$500 million in actual damages from the three defendants and \$1 billion in punitive damages from Thiokol.

**Thatcher rejects call for probe**

LONDON (AP) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on Wednesday rejected a request by former Prime Minister Sir James Callaghan for an inquiry into charges that the secret service plotted to overthrow a Labour Party government in the 1970s. Mrs. Thatcher told the House of Commons that security service Director-General Sir Anthony Duff inquired into the allegations over the past four months. "He has given me his personal assurance that the stories are false. He advised me he has found no evidence of any truth in the allegations," Mrs. Thatcher said.

**Morocco foresees cooperation with Algeria**

RABAT (R) — King Hassan has predicted "an era of sincere and continuous cooperation" between Morocco and Algeria following his meeting with Algerian President Chadli Benjedid on Monday. In a message to King Fahd of Saudi Arabia published on Wednesday by the national news agency MAF, King Hassan thanked the Saudi monarch for sponsoring the meeting held on the Algerian-Moroccan border.

## Iraqi jets pound Sassan oilfield

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq said its planes attacked Iran's offshore Sassan oilfield in the southern Gulf on Wednesday, setting installations ablaze.

"Our aircraft penetrated the enemy defences to fire their missiles at 12:10 p.m. at the highly important Sassan oilfields, setting them ablaze and returning safely to base," an Iraqi military communique said.

In Abu Dhabi, oil industry sources confirmed the attack on the field, 160 kilometres off the United Arab Emirates (UAE). They said workers at Abu Dhabi's nearby Abu Bakr oilfield were being evacuated as a precaution.

Sassan was put of action last November in an Iraqi air strike, involving a round-trip of 1,600 kilometres. Iran later started repair work.

Wednesday's Iraqi statement said Iraqi warplanes, penetrating through Iranian air defences, scored hits at the installations, reducing it to smouldering ashes.

There was no immediate comment from Iran on the air raid.

Iraq has been attacking Iranian oil fields, terminals, pumping stations, refineries and tankers in a campaign to choke off the Tehran government's oil-dependent economy by blocking its oil exports.

Iraq's stated aim is to put pressure on the government of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini and force it to negotiate a settlement to the 6½-year-old war.

Iran has often retaliated for Iraqi attacks by raiding neutral shipping in the southern Gulf.

## Arafat calls for bi-national democracy to replace Israel

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat on Wednesday demanded Israel should be replaced by a larger state, including the West Bank and Gaza Strip, in which Arabs and Jews could coexist.

The Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chairman said he had conveyed to Israel, through a journalist he did not identify, an offer to discuss the idea with "any" Israeli leader.

He said in answer to a news conference question that he was ready to discuss the issue with Israeli cabinet minister Ezer

Weizman, who has agreed to meet with him at the United Nations under certain conditions.

"I said my challenge was not a confederation (between Palestinians and Israelis). My challenge is (forming) a democratic bi-national state..." Mr. Arafat said.

"We are ready to establish a state where Muslims, Christians and Jews can live together."

But he also said: "We have the right to use all methods to achieve our goals... it is an armed

Peres may call off U.S. visit

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres is likely to cancel a trip to Washington next week if the cabinet does not approve his plan for an international peace conference, a government official said Wednesday.

The 10-member cabinet will debate the proposed conference on Monday, but a vote is not expected before Mr. Peres' scheduled trip to Washington two days later.

The ministers, members of a coalition government, are evenly split on the issue along party lines. Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir and his right-wing Likud

block oppose the plan, while Mr. Peres and his Labour Party favour it.

The proposed conference apparently has won the backing of U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz, who has sent a document to Mr. Shamir in which he reassured the Israeli leader about U.S. conditions for such a conference, Israeli sources said.

An international conference would include the five permanent members of the U.N. Security Council, among them the United States and the Soviet Union.

(Continued on page 4)

## William Casey dies

GLEN COVE, New York (Agencies) — Former Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) Director William Casey died early Wednesday in hospital at the age of 74, a hospital spokeswoman said.

Mr. Casey, who was CIA director from 1981 through January 1987 and had been linked to the Iran arms scandal, died in Glen

Cove Community Hospital, where he had been admitted 10 days ago.

The immediate cause of death was pneumonia, the spokeswoman said.

Mr. Casey, 74, underwent surgery Dec. 18 at Georgetown University Hospital for removal

## Mubarak voices confidence in Arafat

CAIRO (AP) — President Hosni Mubarak says he has confidence in Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat despite a break between Egypt and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO).

Mr. Mubarak also strongly indicated in a published statement that Egypt still considers the PLO the Palestinians' representative.

This week's issue of the state-owned magazine Al Mussawar published what it said was the exclusive Mubarak statement. The issue will be published Thursday, but AP obtained an advance copy.

The magazine said Mr. Mubarak was reacting to remarks by Mr. Arafat in Kuwait on Sunday and Monday praising the Egyptian leader and dismissing the Cairo-PLO rupture as "minor."

Egypt closed the PLO's Egyptian offices on Tuesday.

(Continued on page 3)

## Second Israeli air raid in one week kills 10 more Palestinians

SIDON (Agencies) — Israeli fighter-bombers blasted Palestinian camps on the outskirts of this southern port city on Wednesday. Police said 10 civilians were killed and 28 wounded.

It was the second-heaviest casualty toll of Israel's 14 air strikes in Lebanon this year. Eighteen people were killed and 39 wounded in the last raid in the same area Friday.

Police said four jets bombers blasted targets in and around Sidon's refugee camps of 'Ain Al Hilweh and Mieh Mieh in three dive-bombing sorties at 5:45 a.m.

Six other warplanes flew as a protective umbrella and two gunboats cruised off the coast as the warplanes struck, 40 kilometres south of Beirut and 60 kilometres north of the Israeli border, police said.

The densely populated Salfat residential neighbourhood in 'Ain Al Hilweh took the brunt of the 30-minute attack that caught the population of Lebanon's largest refugee camp in Lebanon.

Many homes were levelled. Scattered rubble was littered with charred mattresses, torn clothes,

schoolbooks and children's toys. A pall of black smoke hung overhead.

Pools of blood congealed in a courtyard where a 22-year-old woman was killed and her baby daughter were wounded.

"What can we do to stop all this when the Arabs stand by and watch us get killed," cried 26-year-old refugee Nimr Shihaili, whose mother was killed in the raid as she stood in the kitchen preparing coffee for the family.

"I was in the bathroom when the house suddenly collapsed over our heads," said 12-year-old Wissam Mohammad. "My brother's best friend was sleeping on the sofa. He died. Another friend was on the roof when shrapnel split his head open."

"I can't wait to grow up and kill as many Israelis as I can. Life has no meaning when you see so much death around you and I have nothing to lose," he added.

Wednesday's raid raised to 42 killed and 131 wounded the overall toll of Israel's 14 air raids since Jan. 4.



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# U.S., Kuwait reportedly near agreement on tanker protection

WASHINGTON (R) — The United States and Kuwait are close to agreement on flying American flags from some Kuwaiti oil tankers to give them U.S. navy protection against Iran in the Gulf, administration officials have said.

The officials, who asked not to be identified, spoke with Reuters as shipping sources in the Gulf reported that Iranian frigates had attacked a Japanese supertanker and a Panamanian tanker, both linked with Kuwait, in the past 24 hours.

They were the latest in a spate of attacks by Iran on vessels operating to Kuwait in the troubled Gulf. Tehran has accused Kuwait of providing material support for Iraq in the Iran-Iraq war. "I understand we are close to agreement in principle with Kuwait to fly U.S. flags on some of their tankers," said one administration official. "We could then give them navy protection."

Administration officials said the U.S. Coast Guard was preparing to inspect Kuwaiti vessels to make sure they qualified for American flags.

"Procedural discussions took place last week between the Coast Guard and the Kuwait Oil Tanker Corp.," State Department spokesman Charles Redman said. "We are in the process of examining these ships to make sure they would meet U.S. requirements for refueling."

Coast Guard spokesman Nicholas Sandifer told Reuters: "We would have to inspect for safety, pollution control, crew size and so on," adding that Coast Guard inspectors could be

sent to Kuwait to inspect the ships.

In an effort to deter Iranian attacks, Kuwait has also chartered three Soviet tankers. Those would come under protection from a Soviet frigate or destroyer which occasionally enters the Gulf to escort Soviet ships.

Iran has attacked 15 vessels serving Kuwait this year, hitting 12 of them.

On April 25, an Iranian helicopter sprayed a Kuwait-bound tanker with cannon fire at the mouth of the Gulf, shipping sources reported.

Meanwhile the Pentagon said Tuesday the United States and Kuwait have yet to strike any agreement that would allow Kuwaiti oil tankers to be registered under the U.S. flag but such talks are under way.

The change would entitle the Kuwaiti tankers "to the same protective status afforded to

other U.S. ships" in the Gulf, including escorts by navy warships, said Robert Sims, the Pentagon's chief spokesman on Tuesday.

"We've been consulting with the Kuwaitis on a number of issues, including the registration of some of their fleet as U.S.-flag vessels," Mr. Sims continued. "Procedural discussions took place last week between the Coast Guard and the Kuwait Oil Tanker Corp. But as far as a specific change of registry, it just hasn't occurred. We're consulting at the moment."

Mr. Sims was asked about the matter following a published report in the Washington Post suggesting the two countries had "agreed in principle" to transfer up to 11 of the 22 ships owned by Kuwait to a U.S. corporation to obtain American registry.

"I think perhaps the story ... was a little bit further along than reality," Mr. Sims responded.

## 12 killed in Sudan light plane crash

KHARTOUM (R) — A small chartered aircraft with two Dutch pilots and 10 passengers crashed shortly after take-off from Malakal in southern Sudan, a spokeswoman for the charter firm said Wednesday.

The plane, a Cessna 441, owned by Saco Air Charter, was believed to be Sudanese. The pilots were identified as Edward Folman and Theo Coenen.

The spokeswoman said the company did not receive any radio messages from the plane after it left Malakal airport at 2:50 p.m. (1250 GMT) Tuesday. She could not say whether there were any survivors.

"We don't know what exactly happened. There may be survivors. The army is sending people to the crash site to investigate and we have no reports of a fire in the bush where the plane crashed," she added.

Earlier, two newspapers reported that the aircraft was downed by anti-government rebels fighting troops in southern Sudan.

Al Madaen, paper of the Sudanese Communist Party, and the National Islamic Front's Al Raya, said the plane was shot down by a missile 10 minutes after leaving Malakal and that all the passengers were killed.

There was no confirmation of these reports by Sudan's Defence Ministry or the Civil Aviation Authority. Rebels of the Sudan People's Liberation Army (SPLA) shot down a Sudanese airliner last August over Malakal with a shoulder-carried SAM-7 missile. All 60 people on board were killed.

The rebels, who have been fighting troops in south Sudan since 1983, advised international airlines last month not to send their planes over rebel-held areas.

They said they had acquired the means to shoot down planes flying at high altitude, adding that the warning was issued because Sudanese Air Force planes had been using international air traffic routes on their missions.

Civil aviation sources, who refused to be identified, said the plane was on its way to Khartoum.

## Settlers rampage through Qalqiliya

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — Armed Jewish settlers rampaged through the West Bank town of Qalqiliya attacking and damaging Arab property, reports said Wednesday.

The violence occurred late Tuesday night and Qalqiliya was placed under curfew after a firebomb was thrown at an Israeli vehicle.

Armed settlers entered the town, hurled glass bottles at the walls of buildings and overturned garbage bins, said sources quoted by AP.

The military complained to police Wednesday about the settlers' violence and demanded the arrest of one rioter, Daniella Weiss, who heads the Gush Emunim settlement movement, the sources said.

The sources said the military also sought the arrest of the owners of three Israeli vehicles seen entering Qalqiliya in violation of army orders.

An army official who spoke on condition of anonymity said "there is no explanation" why the rioters were not arrested on the spot. He said no further details were available.

A police spokesman said he had no information about any police investigation of the settlers.

The driver of the vehicle involved in Tuesday night's firebomb attack told Israel Radio that a 12-year-old Palestinian boy threw the flaming bomb, which hit the rear of the car but caused little damage.

**Arabs see annexation**

In Paris, an Israeli minister and close aide of Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir was quoted as saying it may be necessary for Israel to annex the occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Moshe Arens, minister without

portfolio in Mr. Shamir's government, told the Paris-based magazine Les Cahiers de l'Orient, a Middle Eastern periodical, in an interview that annexation may be necessary because of Jewish settlement in these areas.

"I think the existence of these settlements is going to bring about the necessity of annexing the West Bank and the Gaza Strip," Mr. Arens was quoted as saying.

Some 60,000 Jews live in settlements established in the two areas.

The Arab population of the occupied territory is 1.3 million, with 750,000 living in the West Bank and 550,000 in the Gaza Strip.

Middle East experts in Paris said the statement by Mr. Arens, a former defence minister, appeared to revive an idea that had been shelved by the ruling Likud bloc for several years, although it has remained a long-term aim.

## Attempt to kill former Egyptian minister fails

CAIRO (R) — Former Egyptian Interior Minister Hassan Abu Basha was recovering in hospital Wednesday after two gunmen, possibly Muslim extremists, tried to kill him.

An Interior Ministry official said Abu Basha, 65, was shot outside his home Tuesday night by two "bearded gunmen."

Hospital officials said he had been hit in the right leg and left arm and was recovering steadily. Interior Ministry sources said

the men opened fire with sub-machineguns from close range but ran away when Abu Basha's bodyguard returned fire. Police said a 10-year-old child playing nearby was wounded.

Abu Basha was deputy interior minister in 1981 and played a major role in the roundup of members of a Muslim fundamentalist group which assassinated President Anwar Sadat that year.

## Demjanjuk lawyer challenges methods of prosecution witness

TEL AVIV (AP) — The defence in the John Demjanjuk trial on Wednesday challenged the methods of an expert witness who said a photograph on an SS identity card shows the defendant.

The prosecution says the card was issued to Demjanjuk at the Trawnik camp in Nazi-occupied

eastern Poland where the Nazis trained camp guards. The defence says it was forged by Soviet officials who supplied it.

Anthropologist Patricia Smith has told the court the picture on the Trawnik card shows the defendant. She was the fifth expert witness to authenticate parts of the card.

## Israel said to have shipped Soviet weapons to contras

TEL AVIV (AP) — A newspaper on Wednesday quoted U.S. sources as saying Israel played a key role in transferring Soviet-designed weapons from Poland via Honduras to the Nicaraguan contra rebels.

Israeli government officials denied the report.

The daily Jerusalem Post quoted unidentified sources in Washington as saying private Israeli arms dealers bought thousands of AK-47 assault rifles from Poland which manufacturers then under Soviet license.

The report quoted the sources as saying the rifles were shipped from the Polish port of Gdansk to Portugal and from there to Honduras.

The sources said shipping documents in Honduras listed the weapons as Israeli-made, according to the report.

It said the documents indicated that the Israeli Defence Ministry had authorised the transactions and knew the weapons were destined for the contras.

The report also said U.S. officials investigating the Iran-contra

affair have copies of the shipping documents.

A woman answering the telephone at the Israeli Defence Ministry said ministry officials were not immediately available for comment.

Israeli Foreign Ministry spokesman Elrud Gol told reporters the report was "totally and categorically baseless."

He reiterated the government position that Israel did not sell weapons to the U.S.-backed contras who are fighting against the leftist government of Nicaragua.

The Post quoted the U.S. sources as saying the weapons did not come from Lebanon, but directly from Poland. The newspaper quoted the sources as saying Poland got involved because it needed the hard currency.

The New York Times reported Saturday that a U.S. congressional committee investigating the Iran-contra affair had compiled evidence that former White House aide Lt. Col. Oliver North persuaded Poland and China to sell weapons to the contras.

## TV & RADIO

# JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE	
14:00	Koran
14:20	Cartoon
14:40	Children's programme
14:45	Local puzzle
16:00	Cooking programme
16:15	Arabic stories
16:30	Arabic play
17:15	Historical series
18:00	Religious programme
18:10	Arabic comedy
19:00	Religious programme
19:05	Ramadan competition
20:00	News in Arabic
20:40	Arabic play
21:30	Religious series
22:15	Arabic series
22:30	An interview with a star
23:50	Arabic play
01:30	Religious series

## PROGRAMME TWO

17:15	Samedi Dimanche (play)
19:00	News in French
19:15	Le Monde Selon Gorges
19:30	News in Hebrew
19:45	Sports Magazine
20:10	News in Arabic
20:30	Me and My Girl
21:10	The Challenge
22:00	News in English
22:20	Feature film: "Anthony and Cleopatra"

# RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz. AM & 99 MHz. FM  
 & partly on 9500 KHz. SW  
 Tel: 77411-19

07:00	Light Music
07:30	Newsweek
08:00	Morning Show
10:00	News Summary
10:30	Evening Show Cont.
11:00	Country Music
11:30	Hitsville: The story of Motown
12:00	News Summary
12:30	Beatings
13:00	News Summary
13:05	Pop Session
14:00	News Bulletin
14:10	Instruments
14:30	Classical Music
15:00	Concert Hour
16:00	News Summary
16:05	Instruments
17:00	Old Favourites
17:30	Discovering Music
17:30	Pop Session
18:00	News Summary
18:30	Special Feature
18:35	Friday's prayers
19:00	Newsweek

## FOR FRIDAY

# JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 77111-19

PROGRAMME ONE	
10:00	Koran
10:20	Programme Review
10:25	Children programme
11:00	Cartoon
11:35	Amusement programme
12:00	Ramadan competition
12:15	Religious programme
13:00	Friday's prayers
13:20	Soccer
14:10	Religious dialogue
14:50	Fasting and health (Arabic)
15:00	Local theatre
15:45	Cooking programme
16:00	Arabic play
19:00	Arabic Series
19:05	Religious programme
19:30	Arabic play

19:30	Date with a Star
20:00	Evening Show
21:00	News Summary
21:05	Evening Show Cont.
21:55	News Summary
22:00	Evening Show Cont.
22:05	News Summary
22:05	Evening Show Cont.
22:57	News Headlines
24:00	Close Down

# BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

07:00 Newsweek 07:30 Classical Record Review 07:45 Reflections 07:55 Financial News World 08:00 08:30 Hours: News Summary 08:30 Peaches' Choice 08:45 The World Today 09:00 Newsweek 09:30 Time for Verse 09:40 The Farming World 10:00 World News 10:00 10:00 News Summary 10:30 Soundtracking 10:45 Wiping up the Senses 11:00 World News 11:00 Reflections 11:15 International Soccer Special 11:30 John Peel 12:00 World News 12:00 British Press Review 12:15 The World Today 12:30 Financial News: Look Ahead 12:45 The Pleasures of Seeking 13:00 News Summary: Mirrored in Music 13:30 Vintage Concert 13:40 News Summary: Just a Little O/Tune 14:00 News About Britain 14:15 New Ideas 14:25 A Letter from England 14:30 Assignment 15:00 Radio Newswave 15:15 Multitrack 2 — 16:00 Newsweek 16:00 News Summary 16:30 World News 16:30 Network UK 16:45 Cantabile 17:00 Outlook: Opening with News Summary 17:15 Write On 18:00 Radio Newsweek 18:15 The Pleasures' Yours 19:00 World News 19:00 Commentary 19:15 Omnibus 19:45 The World Today 20:00 World News 20:00 News Summary 20:30 20:15 Meridian 20:45 Sports Roundup 21:00 Newsweek 02:30 Time for Verse

# VOICE OF AMERICA

MW 1260 & SW 7200, 9555, 11740, 11925 and 15120 KHz

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## King, Queen to open Amman SOS Children's Village today

AMMAN (J.T.) — The SOS Children's Village of Amman will be formally opened today at a ceremony under the patronage of Their Majesties King Hussein and Queen Noor. The ceremony will be attended by the president of the Austria-based SOS Children's Villages and senior Jordanian government officials.

The village, located west of here near Tareq town, has been built by the SOS Children's Villages of Austria on a piece of 33 dunams of land, provided by the Jordanian Armed Forces.

The village comprises 11 family houses, a director's house, a bakery, a supermarket, a staff house, a guest house and a kindergarten which opened its doors last year.

It was in 1982 when the idea of building a SOS Children's Village occurred to Her Majesty Queen Noor who contacted the then Austrian chancellor, Bruno Kreisky, during a visit with King Hussein to Austria.

Following the contacts, the founder of the SOS Children's Villages, Professor Herman Gmeiner, visited Jordan, was received by Queen Noor, and held talks with Jordanian officials.

This was followed in 1983 by the signing of an agreement for the establishment of the village.

In 1984 Queen Noor laid the cornerstone of the SOS Children's Village of Amman.

The village houses orphans and abandoned children up to the age

of 11. Care is provided by women with household experience serving as "mothers" for the destitute children.

The village is designed to provide for 43 children, but the number can be increased to 100.

Last week regional representatives of the SOS villages in the Middle East, Mr. von Nidda, met with Minister of Labour and Social Development Khaled Al Haj Hassan to discuss services and conditions at the village and arrangement for the official opening.

The SOS Children's Villages are recognised world-wide as models of a family-oriented care and education for orphaned children.

## Dudin: Refugee relief is int'l duty

AMMAN (Petra) — Minister of Occupied Territories Affairs Marwan Dudin said that Palestinian refugees are an international problem and called on the international community to shoulder its responsibility by enforcing U.N. resolutions.

The minister was speaking during a meeting on Wednesday with an international information delegation, organised by the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestine Refugees, currently visiting Jordan to inspect the conditions of Palestinian refugee camps.

Mr. Dudin reviewed the development of the Palestinian problem, which he said, in addition to being a political problem, was also a problem of human suffering. Hundreds of thousands of refugees have been forced to abandon their homeland and to live in camps under difficult living conditions, the minister stressed.

The minister also pointed out that Jordan supports efforts, in cooperation with the UNRWA, to provide better service and better living conditions to the refugees. He also stressed the need to increase the UNRWA budget to enable it to provide the basic necessities to the inhabitants of the 13 refugee camps, through increasing international contributions to the UNRWA budget.

### Dudin meets UNRWA director for Jordan

Mr. Dudin met here Wednesday with Mr. Ele Saaf, director of UNRWA in Jordan.

They discussed a renewal of the health services agreement between the agency and the Jordanian government. They also reviewed the condition of the Qalqiliyah government hospital in the occupied West Bank, as well as maintenance at UNRWA schools in the Kingdom.

Mr. Dudin told Mr. Saaf that the government will be willing to finance the cost of operating Qalqiliyah hospital for five years if UNRWA is prepared to carry out expansion projects on the hospital premises and appoint medical staff to work in the hospital.

## Jordanian, Egyptian ministers discuss Aqaba-Nuweibeh transport

AMMAN (Petra) — The land-sea route between Aqaba, in southern Jordan, and Nuweibeh in Sinai, Egypt, was at the centre of talks here Wednesday between Minister of Transport Ahmad Dakhqan and his Egyptian counterpart, Suleiman Mitwalli.

The two ministers, who are also involved in the current 6th Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee meetings in Amman, focused attention on means of encouraging travel and trade along the route between the two countries.

The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said that the two sides discussed the prospect of reducing the current transportation fares set by the Jordan National Shipping Lines Company (JNSLC) and the Jordan Express Tourist Transport Company (JETT) to encourage travel and tourism between the two countries, and to strengthen economic cooperation.

Petra quoted officials as saying that at least 1.15 million people and 51,000 vehicles used the Aqaba-Nuweibeh route over the past two years.

The minister said that his talks with Mr. Dakhqan also centred on technical cooperation in the field of railway and sea transport and providing training to employees in these two fields at technical training centres found in Jordan and Egypt.

Agreement has been reached in principle for dispatching Jordanian personnel involved in transport to Egypt to attend courses alongside Egyptian staff to update their skills and efficiency in planning and management, the minister said.

He said that, in the meantime, close cooperation in transport between the two sides is continuing and plans are being studied for promoting such cooperation further.

For his part, Mr. Dakhqan said that agreement has been reached on holding more meetings between the two sides as early as possible in Nuweibeh and Cairo to follow up steps taken in transport.

Minister of Energy and Mineral Resources Hisham Al Khatib met separately here Wednesday with his Egyptian counterpart, Maher Abaza. They discussed

### Joint transport company

Following the two ministers' meeting at the Ministry of Transport, the Egyptian minister said, in a statement to Petra, that the two sides are undertaking steps to establish the proposed Iraqi-Jordanian-Egyptian land-sea transport company which will have its headquarters in Amman.

Officials and specialists from the three countries are conducting negotiations aimed at bringing this company into being as early as possible, the minister said. But, he added, the final



Minister of Transport Ahmad Dakhqan and his Egyptian counterpart, Suleiman Mitwalli, hold talks as part of 6th meeting of the Joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee. (Petra photo)

joint studies pertaining to the linkage of national grids of Egypt and Jordan. The meeting was attended by Mr. Mohammad Arifa, director general of the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA).

Egypt's setting up a microwave network in Sinai.

The minister added that he learned from his Egyptian counterpart, during the meeting of the higher committee, that envelopes containing the international tender for a permanent regional Arab link project between Jordan and Egypt have been opened and that the project is expected to be operational in one year.

### Radio link becomes operational

Communications Minister and chairman of the board of the Telecommunications Corporation (TCC) Muhieddine Al Hussein Wednesday said that work is currently underway to strengthen the regional radio link between Jordan and Egypt through the Nuweibeh radio link via Sinai to Cairo.

He told the news agency Petra that two channels were put into service on Wednesday and that work was continuing on the remaining six channels. These channels were recently made available by

Jordan, Mr. Hussein added, is now working on similar projects between Amman and Aqaba to prepare for this historical regional Arab link. This project will serve not only Jordan and Egypt but also regional Arab and international communications.

Once completed, the project will also make it possible for direct T.V. link between the two countries, and consequently, linking with the international sea cable networks stretching from Singapore to Marseille in France.

## Greater Amman Council finalises plan on headquarters, questions Fun-Fair

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The Greater Amman Council (GAC) is putting the final touches on a tender for preliminary designs of the council's new headquarters and an adjacent international conference centre, GAC Mayor Abdul Ra'ouf Al Rawabdeh said.

"We will request the winner (of the tender) to give us a preliminary design for our two projects," Mr. Rawabdeh told the GAC members at their meeting held late Tuesday evening. The tender will be floated soon, he said.

In order to cut expenses of the two projects, the mayor said, the GAC has provided a 100-dunum piece of land situated on the Istiklal road, near the royal palaces, which will host the GAC headquarters and the to-be-named international conference hall.

Mr. Rawabdeh estimated the cost of the two projects at between JD 6 and JD 10 million. He did not say where the financing will come from.

"All details related to the GAC new headquarters, including the scheme's financing, will be discussed in detail once we plan to float the tender," he said.

According to a well-informed GAC member, the council will be paying for its headquarters from its own budget and will seek local

and foreign loans to finance the construction of the conference centre.

At present, there are two government-run buildings to host seminars for large groups. They are the Palace of Culture, situated inside the Al Hussein Youth City, and the Royal Cultural Centre.

But, Mr. Rawabdeh maintained, Jordan still lacks a large conference hall for international gatherings, and said the GAC was acting upon directives issued by higher authorities regarding the scheme.

On the Amman Municipality's 1985 scheme for land allotment in the northern areas of Amman, Director General of the Land and Surveying Department Bader Al Mulqi said he was giving the project due attention to ensure its execution on time.

The Amman Municipality is now a member of the newly formed GAC, which groups 14 municipalities and 11 villages around the capital. The plan entails the selling of a total of 6,700 dunams, which was bought from the original owners by the Amman Municipality to provide needed infrastructure.

Mr. Mulqi explained that his department, in cooperation with the GAC, was "exerting all possible efforts" to expedite execution of the scheme. Reallocation of land to its original owners will

commence at the end of this June.

Director general of the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) Mohammad Sa'id Arafat, also a member of the GAC, said that the electrification of roads between Kilo Supermarket (midway on Mecca Street) and the University of Jordan Highway, and those between Kilo Supermarket and the stretch between fifth and sixth circles, will be completed soon.

Mr. Rawabdeh told the gathering that the GAC was currently negotiating with the JEA over the possibilities of electrifying Mecca Road.

Mr. Arafat pledged that the JEA was ready to prepare plans for the Mecca Street electrification project and for supervising the plan's implementation.

He also mentioned plans to electrify six kilometres of the Sweileh-Salt Highway and a similar distance of the Sweileh-Jerash Highway. The JEA will be financing this scheme.

GAC member, Hani Al Haj Hassan, requested the council to form a special committee to investigate the financing and the administrative plan for the Fun-Fair City in Jubeiha, currently under construction. However, his request for a committee was not taken up. Mr. Rawabdeh said he would prepare a special report on the work proceedings at the \$8.5 million Fun-Fair City.

## Mubarak voices confidence in Arafat

(Continued from page 1)

tion offices on April 27 in response to a decision by Palestine National Council (PNC) to curb ties with Egypt because of its 1979 treaty with Israel.

"We have confidence in Arafat's good judgement," Al Musawar quoted Mr. Mubarak as saying. "We have confidence in his keen desire to serve the Palestinian cause."

"This special appreciation on our part for Arafat probably was instrumental in limiting Egypt's reaction (to the council decision). ... we kept open a number of Palestinian offices that have humanitarian aims, such as the Palestinian Red Crescent."

In addition to the Red Crescent, which operates a Cairo hospital run by Mr. Arafat's brother Fathy, the PLO's offices for women and labour unions also were exempted from the closure order.

During his Kuwait visit, Mr. Arafat said the PLO had asked Iraqi and other Arab leaders to mediate its dispute with Egypt. In a Labour Day speech last Thursday, Mr. Mubarak said Mr. Arafat was "a good man." Nevertheless, the president strongly defended his decision to close PLO

offices and threatened stronger action in the event of "any further transgression" by the organisation.

Mr. Mubarak also said in his Al Musawar interview that there was no special significance to an invitation to PLO dissident Atallah Atallah (Abu Zaim) to visit Egypt.

Atallah has led a year-old rebellion against Mr. Arafat's leadership of the PLO and its main-line Fatah guerrilla group. He said in Amman last Thursday that he planned to visit Cairo this week, but there has been no indication that he had come.

"Those who try to attach a special significance to Abu Zaim's visit are making a mistake in understanding Cairo's attitude," Mr. Mubarak said. "Cairo's position on the Palestinian issue is firm, and its viewpoint in regard to the PLO has not changed."

This apparently meant that Cairo remains committed to the 1974 Arab summit resolution recognising the PLO as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people.

Mr. Mubarak also pointed out that the invitation to Abu Zaim was extended before the Cairo-PLO break.

## William Casey dies

(Continued from page 1)

of a brain tumour that proved to be malignant. He was released from the hospital Feb. 28, but was readmitted for re-evaluation March 13 and discharged again March 28.

Congressional hearings into the Iran arms scandal opened in Washington on Tuesday and the first witness, retired Major-General Richard Secord, testified that government officials, including Mr. Casey, had helped in the operation to supply weapons to the Nicaraguan rebels after Congress had prohibited such aid.

Mr. Casey said he knew little about the secret Reagan administration arms sales to Iran and had nothing to do with the diversion of up to \$30 million to the U.S.-backed "contras."

Critics demanded his resignation, saying the CIA chief should have known about the Iran-contra affair — and if he did, he may have broken laws.

President Reagan said he had lost a good friend and America lost a patriot with the death of

Mr. Casey.

In a statement issued by the White House, Mr. Reagan said: "Nancy and I have lost a longtime supporter, a wise and useful counsellor and a good friend."

Mr. Casey's death removed one of the central figures in the Iran-contra affair even as the scope of his role was still emerging.

The image of Mr. Casey that emerged from official reports of the Iran scandal was of a role somewhat akin to that attributed to his old friend, Mr. Reagan: either he knew more about the operations than he acknowledged, or he delegated much and paid little attention to detail.

Sen. Daniel Inouye, chairman of the Senate committee investigating the Iran-contra affair, opened the panel's second day of public hearings by noting Mr. Casey's death.

"In the coming weeks, as our inquiry unfolds, Mr. Casey's name will be heard frequently in regard to the Iran-contra affair," the opposition Democrat said.

## Fawsiacs mimics ancient art

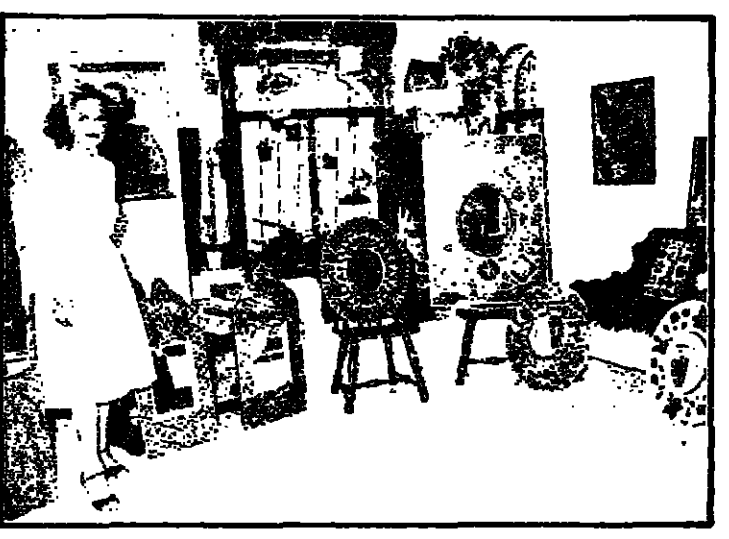
By Nermeen Murad  
Special to the Jordan Times

HAVE you ever heard of an art school called fawsiacs? The term is named after Mrs. Fawzia Hussein Al Farouqi's style of painting which depicts the original coloured stones, used in early mosaics, by using oil paint and water colours.

After Fawzia arrived in Amman at the end of her husband's career with the United Nations in 1978, with her two sons already married and with very limited acquaintance to town and its people, she was bored. After some time boredom turned into a state of desperation, and that evolved into a rare experience. In the living room of her spacious house in the outskirts of Amman, Fawzia told the story of boredom that exploded into an artistic expression characterised by her own fiery personality.

The idea for her work, she recalls, came to her while on a visit to Madaba's mosaics that adorn the Byzantine church there. She was very impressed and subsequently decided to make a mirror frame which depicted the same concept but in water colour. Her first mirror was seen by a close friend who asked if she could have it. That was five years ago. From that moment on she devoted herself to this art.

The first thing that strikes you when you visit her home is the front door. Fawzia has used brass to create an Islamic geometrical design on the wooden door. This design is used by her on wooden



Mrs. Fawzia Hussein Al Farouqi displays her art work, called fawsiacs, and her plants at her home in Amman.

boxes and wooden engravings depicting Islamic style old houses and mosques.

Mrs. Farouqi is not your typical artist. Most of her work tries to balance artistic expression with function. This balance is the most appealing thing about her wooden work. Her pieces are not only objects of beauty, but practical things — tables, mirrors, boxes, and doors. Above all, each is an original piece of art.

Attention to detail is her trade mark. Paintings that other artists might do with elegant brush strokes, she does with impeccably detailed designs of mosaic. To achieve her mosaic look, she uses small brushes to make small dots and squares which eventually come out as a mosaic-like painting.

Saeed Farouqi, her husband,

spoke about his wife's fanaticism with her work. He has many stories to tell. According to him, she often works until four in the morning and then wakes up at seven (often disturbing his sleep). She has never-ending stamina and drive to achieve things, he relates.

Mrs. Farouqi's garden is a clear demonstration of what her husband is talking about. Almost every kind of plant that can grow in this climate is there, if not in the garden, then inside her home.

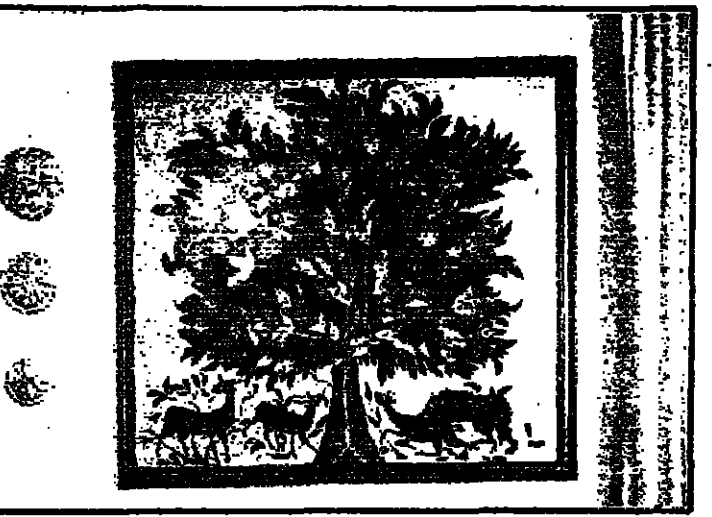
Her love for life is self-evident. She expresses it in the way she talks, moves and looks.

It is difficult to describe her work in simple terms or to relate it to any established school of art. Yet, you feel the answer as you look at her work. She talks about every piece with love. You finally realise that, whatever she says, in the end, her work speaks for itself.

Discipline is what she prescribes for anyone who thinks they have the talent and desire to create. "I put goals for myself every day and I won't sleep until I have finished what I have set out to do."

The only obstacle she faces in her daily work regimen is when she is short of materials to start on a new idea. This, she says, is very frustrating because she can already feel the beauty of the work she wants to create before she even starts.

Fawzia has so far held one solo exhibition in the United Arab Emirates in November 1985 and took part in one group exhibition in Egypt.



One of Mrs. Al Farouqi's creations, an exquisite painting mimicking the appearance of mosaics found in the Byzantine church in Madaba.

## Public safety panel checks pollution of Zarqa River

ZARQA (Petra) — The Public Safety Committee in Zarqa Governorate has recently been inspecting factories, businesses and companies in the upper basin of the Zarqa River in order to ensure that they abide by public safety regulations.

Zarqa Governor Eid Qatarnah said that the committee has prepared a number of recommendations requiring analysis of factories' wastewater at a government-run laboratory to assure conformity with regulations.

The committee also is calling for establishing a special fund for projects designed to protect the environment such as prohibiting the building of factories within two kilometres of the Zarqa River, Mr. Qatarnah said.

He called on municipalities around the Zarqa River to carry out dredging operations, and urged owners of local factories and plants to cooperate with the Public Safety Committee.

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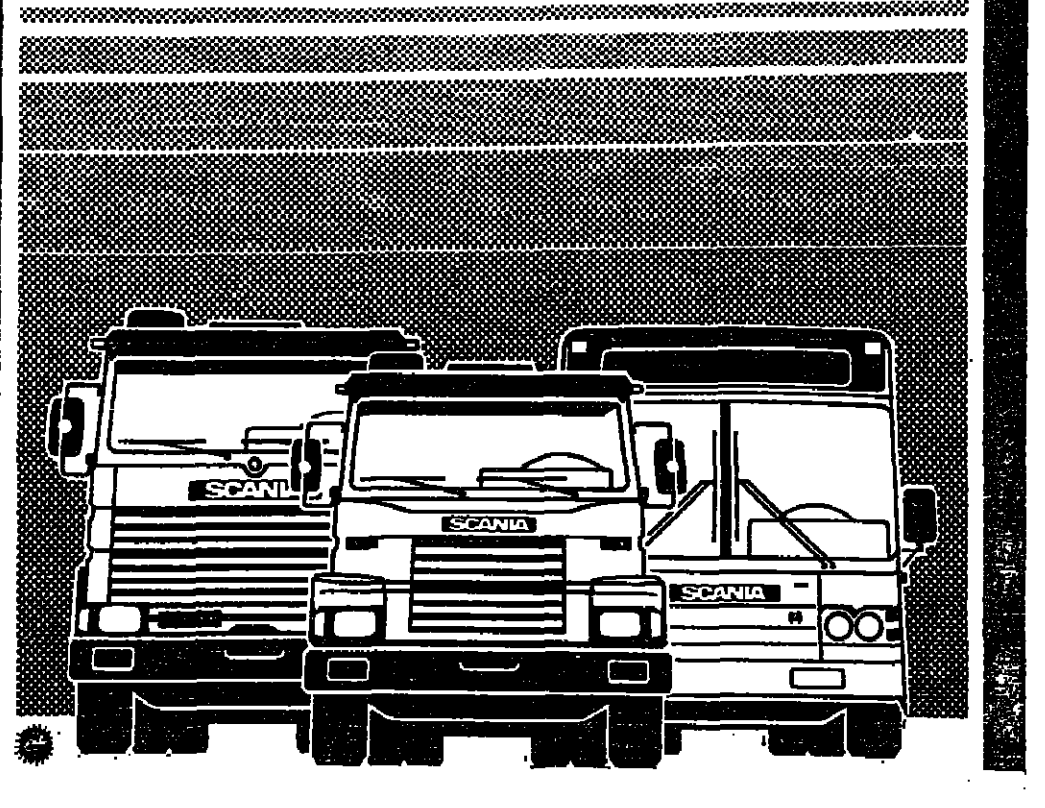
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## Gigantic step to summit

WE CANNOT but salute King Fahd of Saudi Arabia for his successful effort in bringing together the leaders of Algeria and Morocco to launch a new dialogue aimed at defusing the 11-year-old Western Sahara conflict. In fact, the summit between King Hassan II and President Chadli Benjedid has to be seen as a gigantic step towards paving the way for holding the long-awaited Arab summit in Saudi Arabia.

King Fahd singled out the Western Sahara problem as a crucial issue to be tackled before pressing ahead with attempts to solve other inter-Arab disputes, since the Moroccan-Polisario confrontation has been responsible, at various stages, for rival contentions and simmering tension among the Maghreb states, Libya and Mauritania included. Furthermore, the Western Sahara dispute has also brought about a rift between Morocco and the Palestinians because of the presence of a Polisario leader at the Palestine National Council (PNC) meeting in Algiers last month.

We cannot, of course, overlook the fact that Algeria and Morocco face a long road ahead before achieving a total defusion of tension in the Maghreb, but we take heart from the Saudi-sponsored Algerian-Moroccan summit, for it is an achievement in itself for such a meeting to take place and, secondly, because this is the right and only way in which Arab disputes can be solved. The Maghreb summit has given new life to hopes that the rest of the Arab leaders would emulate the Moroccan and Algerian heads of state and reconsider their stated positions which are the stumbling blocks in convening the 13th Arab summit in Riyadh. After all, no other inter-Arab dispute has been of such seriousness as the Western Sahara conflict which involves territory and sovereignty. The parties involved in such an issue have opted for talks rather than continuing the conflict which wastes precious resources and manpower much needed for the development of the Arab World.

A close scrutiny of the lingering inter-Arab problems can only show that none of these issues is beyond the reach of solutions through patient and sincere dialogue. We hope that the Maghreb summit would show the way for other leaders to reconsider their stands and move towards solving their problems through understanding and dialogue. The day is not far, we hope, when we could witness a coherent gathering of Arab heads of state in Riyadh for the 13th summit.

### ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

#### Al Ra'i: Towards joint action

THE sixth meeting of the Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Joint Committee assumes an added importance in view of the timing of the meeting and the subjects which it will address. This meeting which started Tuesday will deal with the past achievements as well as the plans for the future stage in cooperation between Jordan and Egypt in cultural, economic and political fields. Prime Minister Zaid Rifai is expected to hold talks with the Egyptian foreign minister on the issue of the international Middle East peace conference in a clear manifestation of the desire on the part of both countries to coordinate their efforts and their positions vis-a-vis an international meeting for solving the Middle East question. The two countries are undertaking the task of concerting their efforts at a time when the majority of world nations continue to display support for the idea of the international conference and when the Israeli leadership is deeply divided on this question. The talks in Amman come at a time when serious efforts are being made to end differences among various Arab states and to pool resources and efforts for the sake of regaining Arab rights and lands. The current meetings will be significant because they tackle important issues for the Arab Nation at a most crucial stage, and as Arab countries prepare for ending their differences and join their ranks to achieve their common goals.

#### Al Dustour: In service of the nation

THE Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Joint Committee yesterday opened a sixth meeting in Amman under the co-chairmanship of the prime ministers of both countries. The meeting is clearly designed to further corroborate bilateral cooperation in economic, political and social fields and strengthen ties between the peoples of Egypt and Jordan in conformity with the wise policy laid down jointly by King Hussein and Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak. The existing bilateral cooperation is exemplary, and is concrete and realistic, benefiting the peoples of both countries and contributing positively towards full integration among Arab states. The success of such cooperation has been to date manifest in agricultural, trade, information, social and industrial fields and the current meetings in Amman are bound to add more momentum to this joint endeavour, and to offer a greater services to the Arab Nation as a whole.

#### Sawt Al Shaab: Exemplary cooperation

THE Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Joint Committee meetings in Amman have entered a new phase for developing bilateral cooperation and arriving at total integration between Jordan and Egypt. Both sides have identical views about the international Middle East peace conference as to who should attend and what is to be achieved from such conference. On the economic and social side both parties are agreed on promoting bilateral cooperation to achieve further prosperity through carrying out joint projects and conducting joint ventures benefiting the peoples of Egypt and Jordan. The result of cooperation between the two countries so far appeared in doubling the volume of trade in three years, raising it to JD 30 million annually. Also the barter agreement reached between the two countries is bound to offer more contributions in this endeavour. Prime Minister Zaid Rifai made it clear that the current meetings are designed to chart plans for greater measures of cooperation between the two sides in all fields. The committee has an enormous task that requires tremendous efforts and responsible action; but the determination on more prosperous relations exists, and therefore there is no doubt about the success of these endeavours.

# Powered by stronger economy, Italy gains strength

By Victor L. Simpson  
The Associated Press

ROME — The tourists are streaming back, terrorism is contained and the economy is performing so well that Italy is demanding to sit down for dinner with the rich.

Depicted only a decade ago as a sick man of Europe, Italy is now enjoying what some are calling a second renaissance.

In today's Italy, not even a prolonged political crisis and the possibility of early elections can erase a mood that Italians, at last, are on the crest of an economic resurgence.

"The Italians finally have something to crow about. It's a great morale booster," says Dennis Mack Smith, the Oxford historian who is a leading authority on Italy.

There is no minimising the deep problems that remain: The traditional differences between Italy's wealthy north and its poor south; 11 per cent unemployment, including a large youth unemployment problem; the deeply entrenched organised crime syndicates in Sicily and Naples; and a government budget deficit of \$84 billion. The deficit is an exceptionally large 14 per cent of the nation's gross domestic product.

But the recent growth of the Italian economy, and the nation's confidence, have been impressive.

Until the collapse this spring of Socialist Premier Bettino Craxi's five-party coalition, Italy went through 3½ years with the same premier and government, a post-war record.

The confidence has had its effect in foreign policy, with Italy standing up at times to its closest ally, the United States, and trying to carve out a role for itself in Europe and the Mediterranean.

Italy staged an earlier economic miracle, in the 1960s. But its gains were jeopardised by the oil crisis of the 1970s. The crisis brought double-digit inflation, and a generation of youth who sought rapid social change with bullets and bombs.

Those years were capped by the kidnapping and killing of former Premier Aldo Moro in 1978. Some of the terrorism lingers. The leftist Red Brigades terrorist gang is held responsible for the killings this year of an Italian air force general and two policemen.

But now confidence is rising again and the Italian stock market is booming. The Milan market, the nation's largest, has

attracted more than a million new investors in the past two years. Italy is vying with Britain for the honour of being the West's fifth-largest industrial nation.

Italian style is again a world trend-setter, whether it be sleek office furniture, clothes or the "Mediterranean diet" of pasta and salads served around the world.

And this Easter saw 2.5 million foreign tourists come to Italy, up 20 per cent for the Easter holiday from 1986, according to the government tourist office.

The economic comeback has been led by big names such as automaker Fiat, Italy's largest private company, Olivetti, the computer manufacturer, and Istiuto per la Ricostruzione Industriale (IRI), the giant state conglomerate founded by dictator Benito Mussolini that had long been a drain on the national treasury.

But hundreds of lesser-known companies have sprung up to fuel the economy, founded by a new generation with entrepreneurial spirit.

"Things change slowly in Italy but they do change," says Ludina Barzini, a magazine editor and former cultural commissioner of Milan. "Who would have thought Italy would ever have a Socialist

as premier?"

That Socialist, Bettino Craxi, blunt-spoken and combative, seemed to embody the style of the mid-1980s. He won popular support when he refused to yield to U.S. pressure to hand over a Palestinian accused as the mastermind in the hijacking of the cruise ship Achille Lauro in October 1985.

He was the first NATO leader to meet with Soviet chief Mikhail S. Gorbachev in Moscow. He was the first to receive Polish leader Wojciech Jaruzelski since Poland declared martial law in December 1981.

"The image of Italy has grown in the world," Craxi told parliament in his resignation speech, summing up his term of office.

Craxi's nationalist pride has led some Italian cartoonists to picture him with the black shirt and high boots of Mussolini, whose authoritarian, fascist rule made this country way of too strong a central government.

Craxi was indignant that Italy was excluded from a dinner of the five "richest" industrialised countries — the United States, Japan, West Germany, France and Britain — in Paris in February and ordered his finance minister to return to Rome.

The Italians, in fact, claim they

can make a statistical case that Italy has made the *sorpasso*, or the overtaking of Britain as the fifth-largest industrialised nation.

British economists scoff at the notion. But there is no argument that the economic wheels are humming here. The European Economic Community, the Common Market, projects that Italy will have the highest growth rate this year, 3.2 per cent, in the 12-nation trading bloc. Inflation, now down to 4 per cent, is expected to drop even further.

Fiat, the auto company owned by the Agnelli family, is a bellwether. Fiat turned to Libya for cash in 1977, receiving some \$400 million in exchange for a stake in the company. Last year Fiat and West German and Italian banks bought back the 15 per cent stake for around \$3 billion.

Earlier, Fiat had provided a watershed in the economic recovery with the so-called "march of the 40,000" outside its Turin assembly lines in 1980.

The company, troubled at the time by labour unrest and the target of leftist terrorist attacks, had begun trimming its work force and introducing electronic robot-welders. The unions called a walkout. But after five weeks, 40,000 workers poured into the streets chanting "we want to

work," breaking the back of the strike.

It seemed to mark an end to the unions' hold over Italian industry, and to usher in an era when wealth and profit-making have regained respectability. Government statistics show strikes are at their lowest level in 30 years.

There also appears to be a new ethos in the growth of magazines with such names as capital and class, the start-up of a second daily financial newspaper, and surveys showing that Fiat's chairman Giovanni Agnelli and telecommunications executive Marisa Bellisario are among the most admired people in Italy.

While employment has suffered in heavy industry, the smaller firms have created new jobs.

The new Pony Express company provides rapid courier service, supplementing a slow government post office. China Cina (China dinner) and Pronto Pizza deliver Chinese food and pizza to homes, something unheard of previously.

While serious problems remain for Italy, "the fear of dying in the desert has passed," says Romano Prodi, who has led the turnaround at IRI.

"Today people have started to think of the future again, but not yet to plan seriously."

## Peres may call off U.S. visit

(Continued from page 1)

The Israeli government official, who spoke on condition of anonymity told AP that without cabinet approval for the plan, there is little use for Mr. Peres to go to Washington to discuss the issue.

"The way it looks right now, a trip is unlikely to take place," the official said.

The official also said the cabinet may debate the proposed conference in several sessions over the next few weeks, and Mr. Peres "would not want to be away from the scene."

Mr. Peres has said he would topple the government if the cabinet does not approve the proposed conference. However, he has not ruled out protracted debates on the issue.

Mr. Shamir appeared to have come under growing pressure from the United States to change his stand.

Mr. Shultz sent Mr. Shamir a list of assurances Friday how such a conference would be conducted. Israeli sources said Wednesday, speaking on condition of anonymity. Israeli media said the U.S. document came in response to questions posed by Mr. Shamir.

The newspaper Hadashot said Mr. Shultz told Mr. Shamir that the Palestine Liberation Organisation would not be at the conference "as long as it does not recognise United Nations Resolutions 242 and 338 and recognise Israel's existence."

Both Mr. Shamir and Mr. Peres have ruled out PLO participation in peace talks.

Mr. Peres has been seeking other Palestinian representatives

for peace talks. Israeli Radio stations said Wednesday that Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij and former Gaza Mayor Rashad Shawwa were under co. 'deration.

Mr. Freij told Israeli army radio he favoured negotiations with Israel on the basis of the U.N. resolutions, but declined to elaborate.

At a Labour forum Monday Mr. Peres named Mr. Freij and Mr. Shawwa, as acceptable Palestinian representatives in a joint delegation with Jordan to attend the peace conference.

He said he did not object to Jordan's demand that the PLO be invited to any peace talks, since he did not believe the movement would accept the conditions for participation.

Jordan has said all parties to a peace conference must renounce violence and terror, and accept U.N. Security Council Resolutions 242 and 338 which call for Israeli withdrawal from territories occupied in 1967 in exchange for peace and implicit recognition of Israel.

Mr. Shamir on Wednesday heated up the government debate, saying the Labour Party was ready to negotiate with the PLO. "I have good reasons to believe that... the Labour Party today is ready to negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organisation," Mr. Shamir said in remarks carried by Israeli army radio.

Mr. Peres responded angrily to Mr. Shamir's allegations, saying that "the Labour Party is not going to negotiate with the PLO and opposes inviting the PLO to an international conference," Israeli Radio reported.

## Arafat calls for bi-national state

(Continued from page 1)

struggle and a real fight." Referring to Israeli air raids on Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, he asked: "Do you think they are playing games?"

Mr. Arafat arrived in Bahrain Tuesday night on the fourth leg of a Gulf tour to explain the outcome of last month's meeting of the Palestine National Council (PNC) in Algiers.

Asked about Egypt's closure of PLO offices after the PNC criticised Cairo's Middle East policies, Mr. Arafat said the issue was "a very small problem... a summer cloud."

Kuwait and Iraq were acting as mediators to heal the rift, he said.

Mr. Arafat rejected Egyptian statements that the PNC insulted Cairo, saying: "We referred to Egypt with brotherly affection and love."

The AP quoted Mr. Arafat as saying in an interview that the PLO had never advocated "throwing Israel into the sea."

"We never raised that slogan, no Palestinian ever did," he said. "In fact, we have from the start called for a secular, democratic, bi-national state on the entire Palestinian soil, on which Arab and Israelis could live in peace."

Mr. Arafat rejected as false the reports that attributed the slogan to his predecessor, the late Ahmad Al Shukairi, whom reporters quoted as making that call on the eve of the 1967 war.

"When we talk of a democratic state in Palestine we mean the entire Palestinian soil (including Israel) and not just the West Bank and Gaza," said Mr. Arafat. "The political structure of the desired state would be fully democratic institutions, and its mechanics be whatever free elections might evolve."

He stressed that the idea of a dual-nationality state was first aired more than two decades ago, and the Israeli leadership has

"refused it all along."

Mr. Arafat said the idea surfaced again at the PNC session in Algiers.

There, he said, a journalist conveyed an offer from Mr. Weizman to discuss with Mr. Arafat the idea of setting up a Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza that would be confederated with Israel.

"Weizman offered something and I offered him something else," he said.

Mr. Arafat said he asked the journalist to tell Mr. Weizman he was ready to meet him or "any other Israeli leader," even Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir or Foreign Minister Shimon Peres, to discuss setting up an integrated Arab-Jewish state in Palestine.

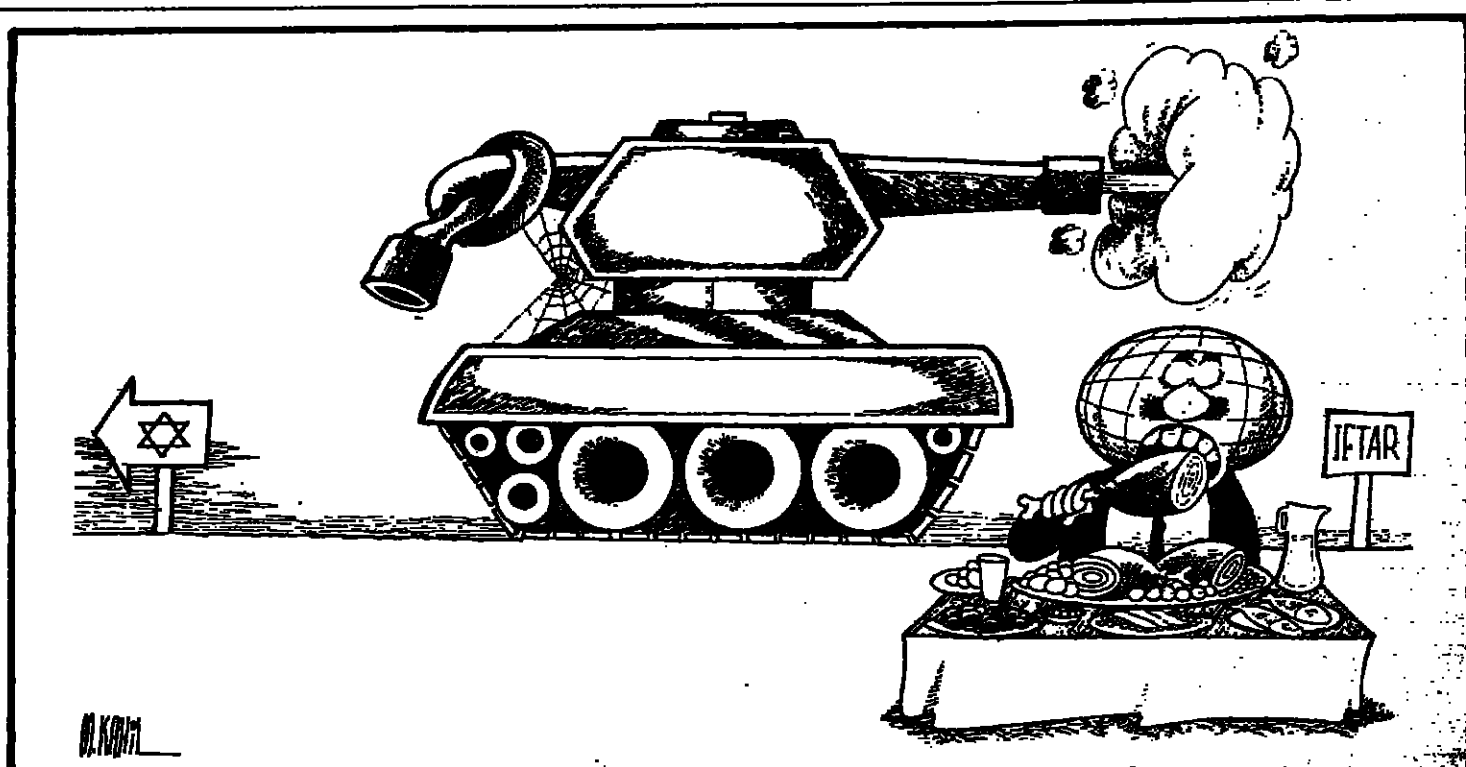
Mr. Arafat made similar statements in Kuwait on Tuesday, but a Shamir spokesman said: "We are ready to negotiate with Jordan, Syria, with every sovereign state, (but) not with an organisation whose aim is bloodshed and killing."

Mr. Weizman last week said he was willing to meet with Mr. Arafat if the PLO recognised Israel and renounced violence. Mr. Arafat told the Bahrain news conference he was touring Gulf capitals to explain the results of the PNC meetings.

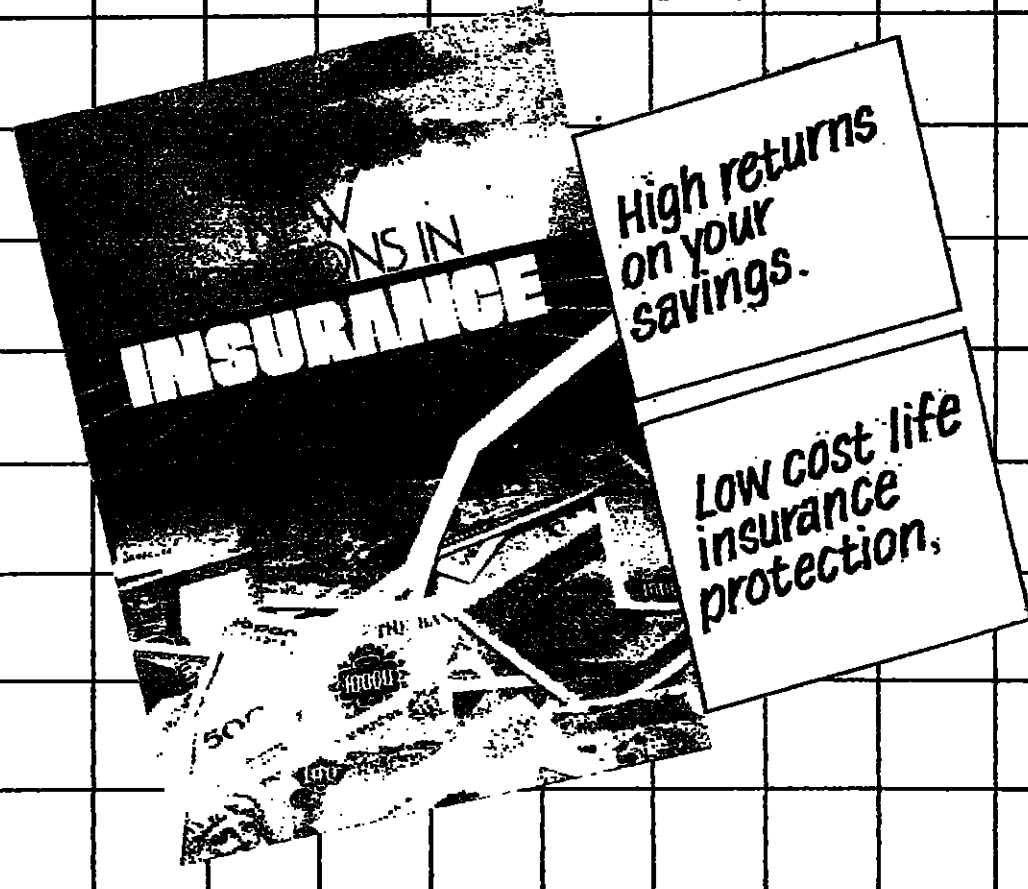
He said that these meetings evolved a united Palestinian front but conceded that PLO unity remained lame because of Arab disunity.

Mr. Arafat said he also discussed with Gulf leaders the advisability of convening a pan-Arab summit conference to reunite fragmented Arab camps.

"I am hopeful the summit will be held next September," he said. "Palestinian unity by itself is not sufficient. We need Arab unity, because we are part of the Arab World. Arab pains are Palestinian pains, and Palestinian aspirations are Arab aspirations."



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# In'ash Al Usra: A thorn in Israeli throats

By Najwa Najjar  
Jordan Times staff reporter

AMMAN — Hardships brought about by the Israeli occupation and uncertainties of the future, coupled with the lack of working male family members, have forced many Palestinian women to take up menial jobs, mainly for Israelis, in occupied Palestine.

The existence of In'ash Al Usra (revival of the family), a women's organisation, is a prime example of the Palestinian women's fight for survival and self-determination.

"Since we have no government to voice our complaints to, Palestinians turn to societies where problems arise," said a member of the In'ash Al Usra who preferred to remain anonymous. "Daily we see the effects of occupation on our people and the humiliation imposed on them when they are forced to work in Israeli households as maids or in their factories," she said during a recent trip to Jordan.

Many of the socio-economic problems Palestinian women face have been alleviated with the presence of an economic alternative provided by In'ash Al Usra. For the past 22 years, the society has been creating jobs in order to recreate a Palestinian society among the rubble of refugee existence.

The motivating force behind the society is Sameeha Khalil, better known as Um Khalil. According to the anonymous source, Um Khalil has been described by Israeli authorities as a "thorn in their throats." No number of harassments, be it town arrests, detentions, questioning, or forbidding her to see her children, has stopped Um Khalil, now in her 60's, from trying to fulfill her goals.

The source explained that because the hardships in the occupied lands are increasing, "work of the society cannot stop."

"How can it stop when we see

people so poor? I have read letters from Palestinian men in prison asking their wives to marry someone else so that she will not be forced to work dishonourable jobs," she said.

Working to help others was not always Um Khalil's main ambition in life. Growing up in a prosperous family in Nablus, she was never exposed to the difficulties of British colonialism. However, with the waves of immigration in 1948, when the Jewish state was created, "Um Khalil realised that what she was taught was not in accordance with the reality around her," the source said.

"She used to tell us of how she would sit on the balcony and hear the wailing songs of women as they were forced to evacuate their land, and how she saw young women ready to sell their jewellery and clothes, if they had to, just to buy milk for their babies," the source said.

Um Khalil was further exposed to the difficult conditions Palestinians were facing when she married the head of the education department at the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) for Palestinian Refugees. As she moved with him to Majdal, near Askalan, and then to the Gaza Strip, after the Israelis occupied Majdal, Um Khalil lived through the daily miseries of her people.

In 1952 Um Khalil's father lost everything as a result of occupation. "Her family had to sell their belongings and home, and join the ranks of refugees," the source continued.

"She used to tell us how she thought the British, Arabs or God would help the Palestinians," explained the source. When Um Khalil realised that no one would help the Palestinians but themselves, she started to take strong and sturdy steps up the ladder.

With six women in 1965 she started In'ash Al Usra in El



Um Khalil

Bireh, built on the three slogans she chose to live by. The first is: "It is better to light one candle every day than cry in the darkness a 100 years;" the second, "the word impossible is non-existent when the human will is liberated from despair and hesitation;" and the third, which has become the cornerstone of the society, "when all talents, efforts and ideas are united for the general good, the achievement is great."

The earlier efforts of the society began with a simple programme to teach eight illiterate girls to embroider, to sew on a second-hand sewing machine, to read and to write. Two years later, the number benefiting from the society increased to 42.

For a short period of time after the 1967 Middle East war, the work was disrupted. Members of the society, with volunteers from other organisations, began a campaign for the relief of war victims and displaced families. For two years, war victims were subsidised from monthly contributions to the organisation.

The end of the war did not mean the end of war victims, displaced families, or prisoners. In'ash Al Usra has several programmes to support wives and children in such circumstances. Instead of relying on aid to fund these programmes, the society embarked on various productive projects. Production would serve two goals: Making profit and employing needy people, the source said.

Striving for financial sufficiency, the society has established centres specialised in making and storing homemade products, such as olives and cheese, and in preparing dried food stuffs. Another small industry the society takes pride in is the biscuit factory which yields JD 2,000 a month, according to the source. Near future plans include starting two other small industries for clothing and frozen foods.

Moreover, the society's five vocational training centres have

helped thousands of women in finding jobs and preserving the Palestinian culture. Women of all ages are encouraged to enroll in one month courses on sewing, knitting and embroidery by machine, beauty care, business and secretarial skills. Plans are underway to expand the vocational training to include glass blowing, carving, photography and book binding. Three hundred fifty trainees are involved in the various sections.

To date 2,600 women from 46 villages are producing woven and embroidered goods some selling at 100 per cent profit. The earnings cover 65 per cent of the society's expenses at home, said the source.

In addition, the society is working to keep Palestinian culture alive. When this programme began, Um Khalil sought out women from various parts of Palestine known for their skills in weaving and embroidery. "Preservation of the culture which the Zionists are trying to claim as their own is of utmost importance," the source said.

As part of the struggle, a centre was established in 1972 with the aim of studying and developing Palestinian folklore. The society hired professors to form a folklore committee. The committee publishes a journal, The Society and Heritage. They also have published drafts of the folkloric studies of the villages of Turmusayya and Deir Bzei, and three books — The Study of Folk-Lore; Palestinian Customs and Childhood in Palestine. Three other studies are ready for print:

Architecture in Palestine, Palestinian Popular Dishes; and the Palestinian Human Being.

The committee has been instrumental in stimulating interest in the study of Palestinian folklore. A great amount of material is being compiled and indexed by the committee, as a nucleus for their archive. The folkloric museum of the society is also supervised by the committee. In the museum, Palestinian culture, history and traditions are on display.

Close to JD 35,000 annually is needed to keep the society going. Financial support is given to over 650 families whose subsistence is threatened because the breadwinner is imprisoned for violations or suspected violations of military orders. Also the society provides for the prisoner every thing from warm socks to reading material.

An incident which occurred two years ago forced the society to open Dar Al Banat, a home for girls aged 1 to 22 who are the children of prisoners serving long sentences, children of war victims, and orphans. A 16-year-old girl, whose father received three life sentences in an Israeli jail, was forced to leave school and work in an Israeli factory. After a few months she was impregnated by one of the Israeli workers. Financial necessity often pushes young Palestinians girls in this direction, said the source.

The home, which can accommodate up to 150 girls, provides them with full care, room and board while they attend school. Already 90 girls live there, while 50 are waiting for

sponsors to cover their expenses, JD 500 yearly. Seven hundred other orphans have already been sponsored through the society; three hundred of those orphans have been adopted by French families.

Financial aid, student aid, university scholarships and loans, medical insurances, scholarships to the children of war victims are also part of the society's programmes. To date 300 college students, who come from impoverished social conditions and yet have high school grades, have received scholarships for Arab universities in the occupied lands or abroad. These students sign a contract with the society that after they finish they will support a needy college student and that they will return to the West Bank or Gaza to work there for a few years.

The Israeli authorities have tried to disrupt the society's work several times over the years. They succeeded in stopping the annual bazaar a few years ago, which was held every year to market the society's products. Other difficulties the society faces are getting licences and surveillance by the authorities. "Legally the Israelis can't do anything, so they resort to harassment, especially aimed at Um Khalil," said the source.

The vital, self-reliant, economic institution has become an essential component in the resistance against annexation. It has offered women dignified means of earning a living while supporting Palestinian culture in communities and camps.



Embroidery by the use of machine at In'ash Al Usra

## Randa Habib's Corner Shrinking directories

A MAN steps in one of the TCC offices, a telephone bill in his hand. He reaches the counter and tells the desk employee: "There is a charge of JD 1 added to my phone bill."

"That's right," answers the employee, "it is the price of one copy of the new telephone directory."

"Yes, but you see, I have already got two copies of the directory. We have three telephone lines at our office, so could I just skip this one?"

"Absolutely not. It is on your bill, and you have to pay for it."

"But nobody asked me in the first place if I wanted a directory."

"We don't have to ask you. What do you think? Do you want us to call all our subscribers to find out if they wish to get a copy of the new directory? That would be madness."

"But you can at least leave it optional. Why just impose it on each subscriber's bill?"

"Because subscribers need a phone directory."

"It should be up to them to decide; and in my case, anyhow, I certainly don't need three directories."

"This is none of my business."

"If at least the directory was complete and pleasant to read, especially that I heard its cost was impressive."

"And what is wrong with it, may I ask?"

"It is written in such small characters that one can hardly read it."

"Well Sir, for your information, using smaller characters allowed the TCC to print a directory less bulky than the former one and much cheaper than that of 1983, which cost JD 3 per copy."

"I still prefer the former one, at least I could read it..."

"Sir, I am a busy man, and I have to see to other customers, so are you going to pay your bill or not?"

"I will pay it on one condition, I wish to get a magnifying glass instead of my third directory."

## Working for peace

The following is a message from Mr. Cornelio Sommaruga, president of the International Committee of the Red Cross, to mark May 8, World Red Cross and Red Crescent Day, 1987.

Since its creation, the International Committee of the Red Cross has sought to improve the lot of victims of war through law and direct action. The International Committee initiated the Geneva Conventions and remains their champion and guardian. Though almost all of the world's states have by now become party to the Geneva Conventions of 1949, far fewer have ratified the 1977 Protocols additional to the Geneva Conventions. The work of Henry Dunant must be continued and extended. That is the duty of governments, just as it is the duty of every one of us.

His undertaking has indeed become universal. Today, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement has some 250 million members. May this symbolic date remind us once again of Dunant's humanitarian message.

There are still too many countries where war strikes innocent victims every day, inflicting physical and mental injuries on men, women and children who thus swell the ranks of the wounded, the sick, prisoners and

refugees. It is within the power of each of us to further the cause of humanity, whether by ratifying a treaty or simply by lending a helping hand to those in need. But we wish to go beyond respect for the fallen enemy, which is the essence of humanitarian law, and help to create, through the action of the Red Cross, the world of peace to which our humanitarian ideals lead us. Born of war, the Red Cross is Peace.

The home for orphans and children of war victims

## The Brundtland report: Is it tough enough?

By Donatus de Silva

ON April 27, the World Commission on Environment and Development, a star-studded group of citizens from industrialised and developing countries chaired by Norway's socialist Prime Minister, Mrs. Gro Harlem Brundtland, reports on the ever-increasing environmental threats which face people throughout the world. Their report — entitled "Our Common Future" — follows those of the Brundtland Commission on development and of the Palme Commission on international security. Although the Brundtland and Palme commissions stirred the imaginations of many, very little has been done to implement their recommendations. Will the \$6 million study by the Brundtland Commission suffer the same fate?

Set up as an independent body, the Commission appears to have heard and learned a great deal about the links between environment and development. But it has failed to turn its own self-education into the hard-nosed criticism and analysis that is needed to have a real political and economic impact.

Moreover, most of the recommendations of the Brundtland report will be familiar reading to those in the Third World. Nevertheless, it presents some refreshing ideas and contains valuable nuggets of truth.

The report recommends both industrialised and developing countries to embrace the concept of sustainable development: Using natural resources wisely to meet present needs, while not compromising the ability of future generations to meet theirs.

Condemning the impact of the debt crisis and the world economic recession on the environment, the report warns that environmental degradation can trigger political unrest; takes an aggressive line on nuclear waste; and pays at least lip service to the value of non-governmental organisations. But at the same time it misses a few key targets.

Take for example the austerity measures — which economists politely call "structural adjustments" — laid down by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as conditions for extending credit to meet short-term balance-of-pay-

ment needs caused by the debt crisis.

Describing the measures as "particularly onerous", the report says that they have effectively cut back growth and slashed programmes in employment, health, education, environment and housing. Peasants have been forced back into subsistence agriculture, which has caused further soil degradation. Government cutbacks in staff and expenditure have had severe impacts on fledgling, weak environmental agencies.

However, while attacking the IMF for causing such problems, the report ignores certain other culprits — such as those Third World governments and elites which have mortgaged precious natural resources to raise loans, and frittered away the proceeds to finance a boom in prestige projects and imported goods or to pay for armaments. The Commission also ignores the fact that enormous sums have vanished in "capital flights". For instance, it has been estimated that between \$6 to \$10 billion of the \$26 billion debt of the Philippines, is money exported by the Marcos family. And from 1979 to 1982, it is estimated that some \$60 billion was quietly sucked out of Mexico, Argentina and Venezuela alone.

The Commission does not highlight the failure of many developing countries to take advantage of times when they were earning better prices for their exports — as Zambia was enjoying with copper in the 1970s. Despite profits in such times, very few funds were invested into projects aimed at improving the long-term productivity of natural resources, such as small-scale irrigation projects, fuelwood projects and anti-desertification measures.

Commenting on nuclear energy, the report highlights the health and environmental risks and transboundary effects of nuclear accidents. Although it does not come out strongly against nuclear energy — as some anti-nuclear lobbyists wanted the Commission to do — it is firm on the problem of nuclear waste disposal.

Pacific nations, which have described Japan as "a mansion with-

out a toilet" for trying to dump nuclear wastes in the Pacific Ocean, will draw strength from the recommendation that all countries that generate nuclear waste should dispose of it within their own territories or under strictly monitored agreements between states.

Recommending the creation of a new international authority to be responsible for preventing the proliferation of nuclear weapons and ensuring environmental safeguards, the report stresses that it should be quite separate from the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), which is responsible for promoting nuclear energy.

Throughout the chapter on energy, the report repeatedly highlights the need for developing countries to develop their renewable energy sources, such as solar, wind and biomass, which could provide 10 to 13 TW (trillion watts) annually — equal to the current global energy consumption. Today, they provide about 2 TW annually, about 21 per cent of all energy consumed. It will require substantial and sustained commitment to further research and development of renewables if their potential is to be realised. But nowhere in the report do the Commissioners pinpoint either the amount of funding required or the exact steps that nations should take to achieve that goal.

Before writing the report, the Commissioners made a unique effort to include community groups. Hundreds of non-governmental organisations and individuals from many regions gave testimony during public hearings. Over 500 written submissions constituting more than 10,000 pages of text were received by the Commission.

Quotes from these statements are used throughout the report. But most of those from the Third World are safe, bland remarks on the links between man and nature. And the report makes no mention of the difficulties faced by environmental NGOs when dealing with government authorities, particularly the policies of those that actively discourage the creation of people's movements.

The report, however, does

stress that NGOs and private community groups can often provide an efficient alternative to public agencies in implementing environmental programmes and projects. Moreover, they can reach target groups that public agencies cannot, the report says.

The Commission also recommends that: — Tribal and indigenous people will need special attention, as economic development disrupts traditional life-styles. In turn, such people can offer many lessons for managing complex forests, mountain and dryland regions.

— Slum dwellers should be provided with direct support to help them to improve their living conditions.

— More political and financial support should be given to national environmental agencies, and the U.N. Environment Programme should be strengthened as the principal advocate and agent for international co-operation and change.

— Since bilateral aid organisations provide nearly four times as much overseas development assistance as international organisations, they should adopt new measures to ensure that all projects include environmental concerns.

— Governments must recognise that the deepening environmental crisis presents a threat to national security — and even the survival of nations. Already in parts of Latin America, Asia, the

Middle East and Africa, environmental decline is becoming a source of major unrest, political tension and violence.

The changes in human attitudes that the Brundtland report calls for depend on a massive campaign of education, debate and public participation that will reach even the most anti-environment governments and key policy-makers in both North and South. A major lobbying and information campaign must start now if the money so far spent on the preparation of the report is to be worthwhile. In fact, the real work of the Commissioners and scores of others involved in putting the report together should only just have begun — Panos features.

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## Ticket problem is a myth, says Olympic official

**ISTANBUL (R)** — Reports that the Calgary Olympic organisers were in trouble over their ticketing policy for next year's winter games were dismissed Wednesday as a myth by organising committee chairman Frank King.

The International Olympic Committee (IOC) has indicated it was concerned at reports that Calgary was in difficulties over ticket distribution.

The organisers recently increased their ticket allocation by 190,000 when it became apparent that showpiece sports such as skiing and skating had been sold out without any tickets having been made available outside North America.

But King, speaking to reporters on the eve of an IOC executive board meeting which is expected to level some searching questions at the Calgary organisers, said: "There is no ticket situation. It's a myth."

King admitted that the organisers were aware of "some confusion, particularly among the West European National Olympic committees, about the availability of tickets. One of the reasons we're glad to be here is to clear up that confusion, because there is no reason for any concern."

In fact, King said, the Calgary total of 1.9 million tickets was nearly four times greater than the number available at each of the two previous winter games in Sarajevo and Lake Placid.

"Given the number of tickets available, I find it difficult to believe there will be ticket shortages in Calgary that are worse than at previous games," he added.

He also stressed that the games

venues were large enough to accommodate the extra seating which would be needed following the allocation of the extra tickets.

Asked whether there was any justification for the IOC to be concerned, he replied: "None whatsoever, and I don't believe they are — or at least they won't be when we leave Istanbul."

The Calgary delegation is scheduled to present a progress report to the executive board on Friday before facing the full IOC session on Sunday.

### IOC delegation to visit N. Korea

**ISTANBUL (R)** — The International Olympic Committee (IOC) is hoping to send a delegation to Pyongyang later this month in advance of a July meeting between North and South Korean Olympic officials, authoritative IOC sources said Wednesday.

Despite three rounds of bilateral talks since 1985, North Korea has so far refused to accept an IOC compromise offer following its demand for a share of next year's Seoul Summer Olympics.

Pyongyang, which originally demanded a half-share of the games, still insists on staging contests in eight of the 23 sports on the programme.

In an unprecedented move aimed at averting any threat of a communist boycott, the IOC and the Seoul organisers have offered the North two sports events,

The sources said Samaranch felt there were some points requiring clarification before Olympic officials from the divided nations attended what would be their final meeting in Lausanne.

Samaranch's request was teleaxed to the president of the North Korean NOC, Yu Sun Kim, on April 27, but no reply had yet been received, the sources added.

If the visit does go ahead, the IOC also hopes the delegation will be permitted to travel from Pyongyang to Seoul via Pannunjom, across the demilitarised zone which has divided the two countries since the end of the Korean war in 1953.

This would allow the IOC to evaluate the problems of access and transport which will have to be resolved if the games are eventually shared between North and South.

## 33-year-old tennis player still reigns

**BURLINGAME, Calif. (R)** — Ken Beer believes that it's never too late and his exploits on tennis courts across the United States serve as inspiring testimony.

While many of the world's best known players fade from the fore by their mid-30s, Beer hit his stride at four score. Aged 33, he reigns as undisputed king of the over-80 competitions held in amateur tennis tournaments all over the country.

"When my friends come out to watch, they say it's like watching Wimbledon — but in slow motion," says Beer.

Beer claimed the singles "Grand Slam" at 80 by winning the national titles on hardcourt, clay, grass and indoors, and repeated the feat in 1985 and 1986. The former commercial airlines pilot has played in 16 national singles championship events over the last four years and won all but one.

At 1.73 metres and a trim 69 kg, Beer competes against 25 to

30 of his peers who travel the circuit across the country. Like him they are devoted to the game, and ailments that inevitably accompany age seldom hold them back.

One wears a pacemaker, another, following an operation for arthritis, began to use a strap round his hand and wrist to prevent his racket from slipping. Others have returned from major surgery to continue competing.

"We're all in about the same shape," Beer says. "Maybe I have fewer complaints than most."

Beer has little trouble with standing matches that last two or more hours and once won a tournament played in 108 degrees Fahrenheit (42 Centigrade) — temperatures that could wilt a player 50 years his junior.

"Why do I do it? For the same reason a climber tackles a mountain — because it's there," he said. "It's the challenge. The harder a match is, the more I grit

my teeth.

"Out on a court you have to do it all yourself. I think a player can figure out important truths out there. For me, this is living life to the fullest."

Beer did not pick up a racket until he was 30, but then quickly caught the tennis bug.

Success in tournament play did not come quickly. But his game steadily progressed and he moved up the national rankings in various age groups until he came to dominate the over-80.

He sees each loss as "an opportunity to learn a lesson," though his rare setbacks usually come when playing an opponent from a younger age category.

"I don't like to lose. But I don't worship winning by any means," he says. "Losing is an opportunity that winning isn't."

Beer maintains a rigorous routine. He works against a ball machine at his local tennis club from 7.30 a.m. to 9.00 a.m., Monday through Friday.

## Who will join Villa in division two?

**LONDON (AP)** — With the championship already won, attention in the English League focuses on the battle to avoid relegation and the complex new system of play-offs which will decide who goes up and who goes down.

While Everton celebrates its second title in three years with a home game against Luton Town, Manchester City, Leicester City and Charlton Athletic face nerve-racking games which decide whether they will remain in the top flight next season.

Under the new system, which is designed to trim the first division from 22 to 20 teams in the next two seasons, three clubs automatically will drop through the trap-door to division two to be replaced by two.

Another division one side finishing immediately above the doomed teams will fight out a series of play-offs with the sides finishing 3-5 in division two. The

winner will play in division one. Bottom of the division one standings, Aston Villa already knows it will play division two soccer next season, while next to bottom Manchester City is hanging on grimly with two points to make up on Leicester and Charlton.

In Saturday's final games, the Manchester side travels to unpredictable West Ham United, Charlton hosts mid-table Queens Park Rangers and Leicester visits an Oxford United side which ensured its survival on Tuesday.

Already destined to replace them from division two are Derby County and Portsmouth, while Oldham Athletic knows it will be in the play-off. Scrambling over the two other play-off places are Leeds United, Ipswich Town, Crystal Palace and Plymouth Argyle.

For Aston Villa, the drop to division two comes only five seasons after it won the European

Champions' Cup by beating Bayern Munich in Rotterdam.

A big-spending, ambitious club with one of the finest stadiums in the country — 48,000-capacity Villa Park — Villa has slumped dramatically since the break-up of that 1982 side, of which four players — goalkeeper Nigel Spink, defenders Allan Evans and Gary Williams, and striker Gary Shaw — remain.

Villa's relegation means that for the first time in English soccer history, Birmingham, often described as "Britain's second city" behind London, will not be represented in division one next season.

Neighbours West Bromwich Albion and Birmingham City were relegated last season and failed to mount a promotion challenge this term.

Villa's demise has led to speculation about the future of manager Billy McNeill, who found fame when he captained Glasgow Celtic to success in the 1967 champions' cup.

Club chairman Doug Ellis said a board meeting has been called for Monday when the relegation issue will be discussed.

McNeill, who has three years of his contract left to run, said: "It is sad to see such a great club bound for the second division."

## SPORTS IN BRIEF

### Iraq boycotts UAE soccer team

**BAGHDAD (R)** — Iraq's Olympic committee said Wednesday Baghdad would boycott the United Arab Emirates (UAE) national soccer team following the behaviour of UAE fans during an Olympic games qualifying match in Dubai which Iraq won 3-0. The committee, led by President Saddam Hussein's son, Uday, said in a statement it strongly deplored the attacks on Iraqi players last Friday. "The UAE soccer federation bears full responsibility for the immoral practices and open attacks against our players and fans," the statement said. It said the boycott, applying to all matches between the two countries, including friendlies, would not be cancelled unless the UAE soccer federation "admitted its mistakes and returned to the correct path." Iraq's leading sports newspaper, Al Baath Al Riyadi, on Sunday criticised the behaviour of UAE fans, saying they threw empty bottles at Iraqi players and fans without any action from police. The Dubai match put Iraq into the next regional qualifying round for the 1988 Olympic games in South Korea, along with Saudi Arabia, Qatar and Kuwait.

### UEFA receives Real Madrid appeal

**ZURICH (R)** — A formal appeal has been received from Spanish club Real Madrid against part of the sanctions imposed by the European Football Union (UEFA) at the weekend, an official said Wednesday. Press spokesman Rudolph Rothenbuehler said that Real had appealed only against the "no-crowd" punishment, adding that a date for the hearing was still to be fixed. UEFA's Control and Disciplinary Committee ordered the Spanish champions to play their next two European home matches behind closed doors because of violence during the second leg of the European cup semifinal against Bayern Munich last month. UEFA's sanctions against Real included a 40,000-Swiss franc (\$27,200) fine for the "unsportsmanlike behaviour" of their players in the first leg of the semifinal in Munich and a four-year ban on the club's veteran winger Juanito Gomez, who was sent off during the match.

### Everton tour match cancelled

**SYDNEY (AP)** — A proposed soccer match between British champion Everton and Australian state team New South Wales has been cancelled, the New South Wales (NSW) soccer federation announced Wednesday. Everton was due to play NSW in Sydney on June 6 or 7. The English club now will play only one off-season match in Australia, against the Australian national team in Melbourne on date to be confirmed.

### Disabled Canadian ends round-Britain run

**LONDON (AP)** — Canadian Steve Fonyo, a cancer victim who had a leg amputated at the age of 12, completed a 1,000-mile (1,600-kilometre) charity run around Britain on Tuesday. Fonyo, 21, who ran 5,000 miles across Canada last year, said the British marathon would be his last run for charity. He is aiming to raise 1 million pounds (\$1.6 million) for Britain's cancer research campaign. Last winter, during the early stages of the run, Fonyo said he was hampered by snowstorms in Scotland and encountered difficulty with his artificial leg. He arrived back in London's Trafalgar Square to a tumultuous reception from scores of well-wishers and onlookers.

### Finnish miss Corsica race after Toivonen death

**AJACCIO (R)** — World championship front-runners Juha Kankkunen and Markku Alen will miss this week's Corsican rally following the death of fellow-Finn Henri Toivonen in last year's race.

The Finns do not like the Corsican roads and they want to honour the memory of their compatriot, who died with New York-born co-driver Sergio Cresto when their Lancia crashed on a mountain road last year.

It was the second fatal accident in the Corsican rally in 12 months after Italian Attilio Bettega died in the 1985 race, and it prompted the International Motor Sports Federation (FISA) to change championship rules to improve safety and outlaw the most powerful group B cars.

There will be no number four car in this year's Corsica rally because the vehicles of both Bettega and Toivonen carried that number in the ill-fated races.

Kankkunen, world champion last year with Peugeot, 1986 runner-up Alen and former world champion Walter Roehrl of West Germany — the top three in this year's standings after four events — will all be absent when the three-day race gets underway on Thursday. It covers nearly 1,400 kilometres.

## Navratilova seeks her form, Graf keeps winning in Italian Open

**ROME (AP)** — With top-seeded Martina Navratilova still trying to find her game, no. 2 Steffi Graf looks like the one to beat in the \$150,000 Italian Open Women's Tennis Tournament.

"If I keep playing like I did today there's no way I'll be playing Steffi in the finals," Navratilova admitted Tuesday after surviving a close-call in her first match.

Navratilova, who hasn't won a tournament since last November, squeaked past Sabrina Goleis of Yugoslavia 7-6 (7-4), 7-6 (7-3). Goleis is ranked no. 49 in the world.

Graf, who has already won three tournaments this year and taken over the no. 2 ranking in the world behind Navratilova, powered past Petra Huber of Austria 6-2, 6-2.

Other seeds advancing Tuesday were no. 4 Gabriela Sabatini of Argentina, no. 10 Raffaella Reggi of Italy and no. 11 Mary Joe Fernandez, U.S.

No. 6 Bettina Bunge of West Germany was knocked out in

three sets by unseeded Judith Polz of Austria.

Helena Sukova, no. 3 seed, and no. 5 Claudia Kohde-Kilsch of West Germany highlight Wednesday's play.

Sukova faces Regina Marsikova in an all-Czechoslovakian matchup, and Kohde-Kilsch plays Laura Ferrando of Italy.

Graf and Navratilova are seeded to meet in Sunday's final, but the 17-year-old West German also seems destined to inherit the American's no. 1 ranking.

"I can be no. 1 some day but she (Navratilova) is still no. 1 now," Graf said. "It's easier for me, not me. It's going to take me a while to be no. 1. I can still improve my game. But I do have a lot of confidence right now."

The confidence showed as Graf, led by her monster forehand, blew Huber off the red clay centre court at Foro Italico in less than an hour.

Navratilova, 30, couldn't handle Goleis' low, slice backhand and needed nearly two hours and

some big serves to pull out the match.

"I had only three losses all last year and I'm very anxious to win again," Navratilova said.

"I haven't played that many tournaments this year and I'm playing for it. Concentration is the first thing that goes."

"It's also a matter of confidence, going for my shots and staying with my game, which is being aggressive," she said.

"Physically I've been working harder off court in the past few months than last year, but now I need to play more tennis. Believe me the desire is still there. It has to be the way I've been running and lifting weights. My legs are stronger than ever. But I need to transfer that desire to the court."

And the battle for no. 1? "Steffi has been the best player this year but that's only four months," Navratilova said. "She's been closing in and is a very formidable challenger. That's one reason I'm working so hard. She's got me going."

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# Philippine army vows to stop attempts to disrupt elections

MANILA (R) — Philippine military leaders vowed Wednesday to stop attempts from the right or left to disrupt Monday's nationwide congressional voting as poll officials said they had imposed direct control on 14 election "hot spots" around the country.

Defence Secretary Rafael Iletto and Armed Forces Chief General Fidel Ramos said troops were in a country-wide state of readiness for attempts by Muslim or Communist rebels, or by dissident troops loyal to ex-President Ferdinand Marcos, to disrupt the May 11 vote.

"We are prepared for any eventuality," Gen. Ramos declared.

Military officials in the tense south of the country said troops were on "high alert" amid signs that talks between Muslim rebels and government negotiators may be reaching common ground.

Mr. Iletto told reporters a single major sticking point, which he did not reveal, remained to be "thrashed out."

No direct contact was possible with the remote Sulu Islands in the far south.

With four days of campaigning left before Monday's vote for a bicameral Congress, the military reported four more election-related deaths in isolated incidents.

In Manila, a spokesman for the official Commission on Elections (Comelec) told Reuters the organisation had expanded to 14 from five the number of regions in which it will take direct control and supervision of voting. He added more regions may be added to the list before Monday.

The "hot spots" where authorities fear election day violence and possible intimidation and fraud, include Sulu province, Masbate province in the central

Philippines, and large areas of Mindanao Island.

Some districts in Manila have also been placed under Comelec control. The military said it had deployed troops to trouble spots and was keeping extra soldiers in reserve.

Mr. Iletto made no direct reference to military intelligence reports last week that renegade officers loyal to Mr. Marcos planned a terror campaign to disrupt the poll — regarded as the first genuinely free election to be held in the Philippines in almost two decades.

In answers to questions he acknowledged it was possible that mutinous troops might try to postpone the poll but declared: "We will not allow that to happen."

Meanwhile government and Muslim rebel negotiators met for six hours Wednesday in a guerrilla hideout, but failed to reach agreement on a formula for granting autonomy in the southern Philippines.

Chief government negotiator Emmanuel Pelaez told reporters before heading back for Manila that talks would continue in the capital. Mr. Pelaez, the Philippine ambassador to Washington, said he believed chances of forging an agreement before a Saturday deadline had improved.

"The atmosphere is very good," Mr. Pelaez said. "I think the chances of success have increased. Before it was 50-50, but now it's 70-30."

Moro National Liberation Front chairman Nur Misuari, who met with Mr. Pelaez for nearly four hours on Tuesday, said after Wednesday's talks on Jolo Island that the rebels reserve the right to resume hostilities if the talks fail.

But he added: "The MNLF will do everything in its capacity to prevent that war."

Some of the rebel negotiators travelled on a military plane that was to take government representatives to Manila, where more talks were planned within the next three days.

## Up to 175 feared dead in Indonesian landslide

KOTO PANJANG, Indonesia (R) — Up to 175 people are feared dead in a landslide that swamped a limestone-quarry village on the Indonesian island of Sumatra, local officials told Reuters Wednesday.

The bodies of 60 victims have been recovered from dozens of homes that were engulfed by a thundering tide of cascading mud and rocks. The slide hit the village of Koto Panjang in west Sumatra on Monday.

"I heard a sound like doomsday," said Abdul Sadar, a 55-year-old quarry worker who escaped the killer avalanche that struck at dusk as Muslim villagers were preparing for the Ramadan evening meal.

Rescue workers said 22 children were among the dead.

Around 115 people are missing, believed killed by the tide of surging rubble that was loosened on surrounding hillsides by heavy equatorial rains.

Soldier-manned bulldozers and mechanical excavators have been brought in to help clear the twisted wreckage of metal roofs, lamp-posts and vehicles. Fifty-nine homes were wrecked in the landslide, officials said.

Troops, hampered by persistent rains, pulled out 16 bodies from the mud Wednesday, including a two-year-old baby.

## Carbide hearing postponed because of lawyers' strike

BHOPAL, India (AP) — A court hearing on India's \$3-billion lawsuit against the U.S.-based Union Carbide Corp. was cancelled Wednesday because striking lawyers refused to unlock the courthouse.

District Judge M.W. Deo, who met briefly outside the building with lawyers from both sides, said a new hearing could not be held until after the court's vacation break ends June 15. The annual court recess is scheduled to begin Friday.

As the judge spoke, striking lawyers marched nearby shouting slogans.

Members of the Bhopal Bar Association have picketed outside the courthouse since April 24, demanding a high court be established in the capital city of Madhya Pradesh state.

Cases appealed in Bhopal currently have to be heard in the high court at Jabalpur, 260 kilometres to the east.

The lawyers' strike is unrelated to the Union Carbide Case.

Wednesday's postponement was the latest of many delays in hearings on lawsuits seeking damages for thousands of people affected by the gas leak on Dec. 3, 1984, from a Carbide subsidiary's pesticide plant in Bhopal.

## Peru rebels continue attacks

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Guerrillas wounded two guards and detonated incendiary bombs at a shoe factory in Lima as rebel attacks in Peru continued for a second consecutive day, police and factory officials said.

Earlier Tuesday, a high-ranking police officer said 34 suspected Maoist guerrillas were arrested following attacks that included an apparent attempt to bomb the U.S. embassy under cover of a blackout caused by saboteurs.

But a U.S. embassy spokesman denied that the rebels attacked the embassy as part of a citywide assault with gunfire and bombs during the blackout that started at about 10 p.m. Monday (0200 GMT Tuesday).

Guerrillas threw dynamite from automobiles at the ministries of Labour and Transportation, eight bank branch offices, a police post and the headquarters of the army's armoured division in Lima, according to the anti-insurgency police officer, who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Rebels renewed their attacks at about 10:30 p.m. (0230 GMT) Tuesday with the raid at the Bata-Rimac shoe factory, about three kilometres north west of downtown Lima.

In other attacks Tuesday night, guerrillas threw dynamite at a branch office of the state bank in a middle-class neighbourhood and bombed a private bank, a shopping centre and a gas station, said a police official who asked not to be named.

He said he did not have information of any injuries or the extent of damages at the bombed sites.

## Father says contras killed Linder at point-blank range

MANAGUA, Nicaragua (AP) — The father of a slain U.S. volunteer worker in Nicaragua has said an autopsy showed U.S.-backed contra rebels killed Benjamin Linder while he was on the ground wounded.

"What I am telling you is that they blew his brains out at point-blank range as he lay wounded," said Dr. David Linder, a pathologist from Portland, Oregon. "Someone, I believe, came up to him, saw him, and instead of taking him prisoner (or) leaving him alone, killed him."

Mr. Linder said he based his conclusions on an autopsy report by a Nicaraguan physician that contradicts reports from witnesses who said the 27-year-old mechanical engineer was killed by grenade fragments on April 28.

The son was one of about 200 Americans working with the leftist Sandinista government, which the contras are fighting with U.S. training and aid. He was the first U.S. volunteer to be killed by the

rebels.

Linder was given a hero's burial Thursday by the government in Matagalpa, 96 kilometres north of Managua, at a funeral where President Daniel Ortega served as one of the pallbearers.

Sandinista officials claim the rebels singled out Linder and killed him in a small village in northern Jinotega province where he was working on a rural electrification project.

The Nicaraguan Democratic Force, or FDN, the largest contra fighting group, claims Linder was caught in a firefight between the rebels and Sandinista militia. There were conflicting reports about whether Linder was armed at the time.

Mr. Linder said eyewitness accounts show his son and co-workers were ambushed by the rebels who were hiding in an isolated ravine where the attack took place.

"This was not a chance encounter," he said. "This is murder."

## Filipino rebels kidnap 6 Red Cross workers

MANILA, Philippines (AP) — Kidnappers who abducted seven Red Cross workers in a Muslim area of Mindanao Island have released one Filipino nurse, the government-run news agency reported Wednesday.

A driver for the seven workers, who was kidnapped Tuesday along with the others, also has been released, according to the Philippines New Agency (PNA), which quoted military officials as saying.

The Red Cross staffers kidnapped included two workers from Switzerland, five Filipino nurses, plus the driver.

They were abducted Tuesday afternoon by armed men in the town of Molondo in Lanao Del Sur province, 830 kilometres south of Manila, the agency said.

PNA said negotiations were under way for release of the six remaining captives. There was no word on the kidnappers' demands.

The agency quoted Brig.-Gen. Mariano Adaleme as saying the kidnappers were from a splinter group of the Muslim Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF), which has been waging an insurgency for 15 years.

In Geneva, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) issued a statement Wednesday saying it was taking all possible steps to ensure the

rapid release of the workers.

Jean-Daniel Tauxe, deputy director of ICRC in Manila, told the Associated Press that the workers failed to return to their headquarters in the Mindanao city of Cagayan De Oro as scheduled on Tuesday.

He said a Red Cross team from Manila was on its way to Mindanao to investigate.

Tauxe identified the Swiss nationals as Alex Braunwalder and Jacky Sudan.

The news agency quoted provincial Police Commander Lt.-Col. Omar Manablang as saying the other five abducted were Filipino nurses. Tauxe said they had been working with people displaced by sectarian fighting in the province.

Col. Manablang was quoted as saying the Red Cross workers and their captors had been seen late Tuesday in the town of Butig, about 25 kilometres south of Molondo on the shores of Lake Lanao.

Attempts to contact the Swiss embassy were unsuccessful. Most embassies and government offices were closed Wednesday for a national holiday.

There was no word on the reason for the kidnapping.

Last July, Swiss tourist Hans Kuenzi was kidnapped by Muslims in western Mindanao and held until October.

## Hart denies immorality in relationship with woman

NEW YORK (AP) — Gary Hart, seeking to contain damage to his chances for the Democratic nomination for president, said the American people care more about his stand on economic policy than on a report that he spent a night with a Miami model. But questions about the incident persist.

The Democratic front-runner on Tuesday denounced the story published in Sunday's Miami Herald as "misleading and false" and said it had hurt him and his family and left him struggling "to maintain my integrity and my honour."

A determined Hart said he had made a mistake but would continue his bid for the 1988 Democratic nomination.

"Let me assure you that my campaign just begun," the former Colorado senator said. "As I've said, I don't intend to give up

because the cause is more important than the candidate."

In his first public appearance since the story was published, Mr. Hart spoke to the American Newspaper Publishers Association about the story, then delivered a prepared 17-page speech about his economic policies.

"Did I make a mistake by putting myself in circumstances that could be misconstrued? Of course I did. That goes without saying," Mr. Hart said. "Did I do anything immoral? I absolutely did not."

Mr. Hart tried to deflect attention from the incident back to campaign issues.

The story in the Herald said that Mr. Hart and Donna Rice, a 29-year-old actress and model, spent Friday night and most of Saturday together at his Washington townhouse while his wife, Lee, was in Denver.

## COLUMNS 7&8

### Turkey bans turbans for female students

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — The students at the school of theology are boycotting classes to protest a ban against turbans for women, student leaders and school officials have said. Abdurrahman Basci, a spokesman for the students, said that the boycott was in its second day on Tuesday and that students would not return to school unless authorities lifted the ban. There are 1,108 students registered at the school. A professor who spoke on condition of anonymity said there were only two students at her class Tuesday morning. "The turban problem," as it is called by the public, began last December when women were banned from covering their heads with a scarf or turban in the Muslim tradition. Violation of the rules after a warning can lead to dismissal from school. Basci said the students decided to stage a protest when 61 friends were suspended from the school without warning for a period of up to one month.

### Pope's imitator poses for laughs

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Gene Greytak looks a lot like Pope John Paul II, and the retired real estate salesman is turning the coincidence into a \$150-an-hour business. Greytak dons flowing white robes and a skullcap or tall miter to visit private parties, floor shows and charity events. "You walk into parties and people kind of put their drinks behind them," he said. "My wife enjoys it, but she feels a little awkward when I'm dressed up — she walks a little bit behind me. Says she ought to dress like a nun." He mimics his look-alike's mannerisms, waving and making the sign of the cross. Sometimes he delivers a few humorous remarks. And he usually ends up posing for pictures with the guests. "I don't do anything improper, or in disrespect to the Pope," Greytak said Tuesday. "Whatever funds I get from this I give to charity." The 61-year-old Roman Catholic says he has the church's blessing, and carries an official letter in his briefcase.

### Buddhists hold major celebrations

SEOUL, South Korea (AP) — Tens of thousands of Buddhists visited temples across South Korea, chanting prayers and offering flowers to mark the 2,531st birthday of Buddha. Ceremonies were held in hundreds of temples and other Buddhist institutions across South Korea. Many stores and shops joined banks and government agencies in closing for the national holiday.

### Pilgrim candles endanger Buddha tree

NEW DELHI (R) — Candles lit by Buddhist pilgrims are threatening a 2,500-year-old fig tree under which the Buddha attained enlightenment in north India, according to biologists. Smoke from candles placed by thousands of devotees from all over the world is blackening the leaves of sacred peepul tree at Buddha Gaya in the north-eastern state of Bihar, the United News of India news agency reported Monday. It quoted biologists as saying the smoke was blocking vital sunlight to the leaves. By tradition the sprawling tree marks the spot where Gautama became a Buddha — an enlightened one.

### Man held for throwing corpse into street

HAMBURG, West Germany (R) — A man who threw a corpse out of a window was briefly held by Hamburg police on suspicion of murder before a pathologist established the dead man had died of cancer. A police spokesman said the man threw the body out of a third-floor apartment window into the street below shortly after his friend died. He was arrested on suspicion of causing the man's death but was later released after a post-mortem showed the dead man had died of cancer. "Throwing a dead body out of the window is not a criminal offence," the police spokesman said, explaining the authorities' decision to release the man.

## Gandhi denounces Pakistan

NEW YORK (AP) — A published report quotes Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi as saying there is clear evidence that Pakistan is going ahead full steam with its nuclear weapons programme.

"The United States has the power to restrain Pakistan," Mr. Gandhi said in the interview published in the issue of Forbes dated May 18 but released Tuesday. American "perceptions of Pakistan's strategic usefulness, which are themselves questionable, seem to prevail over a larger concern for non-proliferation."

Asked if India was producing its own nuclear weapons, he replied: "After our peaceful nuclear experiment in 1974, we have done no further work in that direction."

Mr. Gandhi also said he was convinced that the proposed sale of American AWACS (battle-control) airplanes to Pakistan could affect his country.

"I am convinced that these sophisticated early-warning systems will be used by Pakistan against us ... although Pakistan claims that it needs new sophisticated weapons systems to protect itself against the Soviet presence in Afghanistan, I do not see Pakistan taking on the Soviets," Mr. Gandhi said.

Asked about his achievements

in his 2½-years in office, he said: "I am glad we were able to reach accords in Punjab, Assam, Kashmir and Mizoram ... my main concern now is to see that the pace of economic development picks up so that there is more employment for the young ... I want to create an environment for dynamic growth of our industry."

In a separate development, two Sikh militants were shot to death and a third militant and a policeman injured in a street battle Tuesday in Punjab state's holy Sikh city of Amritsar, the United News of India (UNI) reported.

The news agency also said police reported two civilians were fatally shot by suspected Sikh rebels in other incidents in the violence-torn northern state Tuesday and one other was gunned down the night before.

The latest deaths brought to more than 310 the number of people killed this year in Punjab in attacks blamed on radicals fighting for a separate Sikh nation.

Police said the battle with Sikh rebels erupted when a paramilitary police patrol came upon the militants trying to loot a store on the outskirts of the city, UNI said. It said police recovered a rifle and pistol after the battle.

## Blacks stage massive strike on eve of S.African polls

JOHANNESBURG (Agencies) — White voters crowded polling stations on Wednesday while more than a million black workers and students stayed home to protest the whites-only parliamentary elections.

The independent Labour Monitoring Group said it conservatively estimated 700,000 blacks did not show up for work in manufacturing and retail jobs, mostly in the central Transvaal and Eastern Cape province.

The figure did not include hundreds of thousands of students, public employees and blacks who work in mining and service industries.

The bitter election campaign ended with white voters trooping to heavily-guarded polling stations, often through eerie, near-deserted streets.

The blacks are protesting the exclusion of the 25 million black majority from parliament. In most areas they appeared to have headed leaders' pleas for a peaceful, disciplined strike.

The three million white voters were expected to re-elect President P.W. Botha's right-wing National Party (NP), which has held power since 1948 and campaigned on a tough law-and-order platform.

Security forces launched a major operation in Soweto, the largest black township and a frequent flashpoint in the past three years of violent protest.

Parts of Johannesburg, South Africa's biggest city, resembled a ghost town with some shops shuttered and whites replacing blacks behind the counters of near-empty department stores.

## GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN  
AND OMAR SHARIF  
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### THE NO-WAY FINESSE

Both vulnerable. South deals.

**NORTH**  
♠ A 108  
♥ A 106  
♦ A 93  
♣ J 1093

**WEST**  
♠ 883  
♥ 9432  
♦ Q62  
♣ 874

**EAST**  
♠ 42  
♥ 85  
♦ 8754  
♣ A Q652

**SOUTH**  
♠ K Q J 97  
♥ K Q J 7  
♦ K J 10  
♣ K

The bidding:  
South West North East  
1 ♠ Pass 2 NT Pass  
3 ♠ Pass 5 ♠ Pass  
4 NT Pass 6 ♠ Pass  
6 ♠ Pass Pass

Opening lead: Three of ♣

How you tackle this hand will tell a lot about the standard of your dummy-play. Cover the East-West cards and see how you would proceed in your attempt to land 12 tricks at your slam in spades.

The simple way is to draw trumps and try to guess which way to take the two-way diamond finesse. If you are an average guesser, you will be right half of the time.

A more sophisticated line is to draw trumps and then cash four heart tricks. From that you learn

that East started with only four cards in the major suits, and therefore, West to have longer diamonds than West. If you tackled the hand that way and played East for the queen of diamonds, you can congratulate yourself on better technique even though you went down one trick.

If you are a sly fellow, you would win the opening lead in dummy and lead the jack of clubs as if you intended taking a finesse. Every now and then you will fool East into ducking the ace of clubs, and you are then playing for an overtrick.

If you are a good technician, you will see that, if trumps are 3-2, you do not need any finesse—you can make the hand on a dummy reversal as long as hearts are no worse than 4-2. It does no harm to win the first trick on the table and try to steal a trick with the king of clubs.

But suppose that East is wise to you and rises with the ace of clubs and then reverts to a trump. Win on the board and ruff a club. Cross back to the ten of spades and, if both defenders follow, you can claim your contract. Ruff another club, then use the ace of hearts as the entry to ruff dummy's last club. Now all you need do is cross to the ace of diamonds to pull the last trump, discarding your remaining diamond, and your two high hearts take the last tricks.

## WEEKEND CROSSWORD

GOLDEN OATERS

By Emory Cain

ACROSS

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